

ESTABLISHED 1881

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Intimations

THE MITSUI BÜSSAN KAISHA
(MITSUI & CO.)

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CONTRACTORS OF COAL for the Imperial Japanese Navy and Arsenal and the State Railways; Principal Railway Companies and Industrial Works; Home and Foreign Mail and Freight Steamers.

SOLE PROPRIETORS of the Famao Mills, Tacoma, Yamano and Ida Coal Mines.

SOLE AGENTS for Fujinotani, Hokoku, Honda, Ichimura, Kanada, Mameda, Manno, Inoura, Otsuji, Sasahara, Teibakuro, Yoshinotani, Yoshio, Yonokibara and other Coals.
S. TANAKA, Manager, Hongkong.

1. The first part of the document is a header section containing the following information:

- 1.1. The name of the organization: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"
- 1.2. The address: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"
- 1.3. The date: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"

2. The second part of the document is a body section containing the following information:

- 2.1. The first paragraph: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"
- 2.2. The second paragraph: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"
- 2.3. The third paragraph: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"

3. The third part of the document is a footer section containing the following information:

- 3.1. The name of the organization: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"
- 3.2. The address: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"
- 3.3. The date: "The [illegible] of [illegible]"

BEAR IN MIND

THAT THE "BEAR" BRAND

IS

PURE SWISS MILK.

Ask your Storekeeper for it. Take no other.

1. Unsweetened Condensed Milk.

2. Natural Milk Sterilized—not Condensed.

3. Sterilized PURE CREAM, contains 25% Butterfat.
4. B.A.C. Chocolate and Milk in liquid form.

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.
HIGHEST AWARDS.**

THE BERNESE ALPS MILK CO.

Stalden, Switzerland.

Agents for South China: **F. BLACKHEAD & CO.**
 Hongkong, 20th December, 1906.

THE CITY OF PARIS,

PARISIAN DRESSMAKERS AND COURT MILLINERS,
3, PEDDER STREET.

MADAME FLINT, Manageress.

NEW GOODS ARRIVED EX S.S. "BORNEO."

HABERDASHERY of every kind.
NEW MILLINERY and DRESS MATERIALS

NOTE.—The only place in Town employing PARISIAN dressmakers exclusively.
Hongkong, 27th December, 1906

Hotels.

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN
 PENKETH'S GAP, the PEAK, near the TRAN TERMINUS, Tel. 58.

For Terms, &c., apply to the
KANAOKA,
Hongkong, 2nd July, 1900.

VICTORIA HOTEL, MACAO HOTEL,
SHAM EEN CANTON, MACAO CHINA

ON THE BRITISH CONCESSION. IN THE CENTRE OF THE PRAIA GRANDE.

BOTH HOTELS UNDER EXPERIENCED EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT

EVERY COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE FOR RESIDENTS AND
TOURISTS.

751

Wm. FARMER, Proprietor

OCCIDENTAL KING EDWARD

HOTEL.		HOTEL.	
1	2	1	2
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7	8	7	8
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99	100	99	100

EXCELLENT CUISINE.
A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.
LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA ROOMS.

MODERATE PRICES.
ELECTRIC FANS

TO ORDER IN
EVERY ROOM.

EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.

ELGIN ROAD, KOWLOON
 HONGKONG, 10th May, 1964.

Figure 1. The effect of the number of trials on the mean number of correct responses for the 100 trials condition. The number of correct responses was significantly higher than the number of incorrect responses for all conditions.

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

S.S. "POWAN," 2,338 tons Captain W. A. Valentine.
 " "FATSHAN," 2,360 " " R. D. Thomas.
 " "KINSHAN," 1,995 " " J. J. Lossius.

Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted), 9 P.M. (Saturday excepted).

Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. (Sunday excepted).

These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River. Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "HONAM," 2,363 tons Captain H. D. Jones.

Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 2 P.M.

Departures from Macao to Hongkong on week days at 7.30 A.M.

CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "LUNGSHAN," 2,119 tons Captain T. Hamlin.

Departures from Macao to Canton on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 7.30 A.M.

Departures from Canton to Macao on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 7.30 A.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE H. K. C. AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD. THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "SAINAM," 588 tons Captain J. Wilcox.

" "NANNING," 569 " " O. Butchart.

One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at about 8 A.M., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 A.M. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin Accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

Hotel Mansions, (First Floor) opposite the Hongkong Hotel,

Or of BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents, CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1907.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE.

REGULAR THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE BETWEEN JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer.	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
TJILATJAP...	JAVA	First half January	JAPAN	First half January
TJIBODAS...	JAVA	Second half January	JAPAN	Second half January
TJIPANAS...	JAPAN	Second half January	JAVA PORTS	Second half January
TJIMAH...	JAVA	First half February	JAPAN	First half February
TJILIWONG...	JAPAN	Second half February	JAPAN	Second half February

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherlands India Ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

THE HEAD AGENCY

OF THE

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE.

Telephone No. 375.
YOKO BUILDINGS, 1st Floor.
Hongkong, 1st January 1907.

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP CO.

HONGKONG-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SAN-UI."

SAILING TWICE A WEEK. THE ROUND TRIP OCCUPIES 5½ DAYS. The steamers sail from HONGKONG to SAMHUI, SHUWING, TAKSHING and WUCHOW. They pass through the Canton delta, and steam up about 150 miles through the gorges, and beautiful scenery of the West River.

Fare for the Round Trip \$30.

These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted by Electricity.

For further information, apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS,
WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. CO.,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 6th October, 1906.

EYES

RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
8, PEDDER STREET, HONGKONG.

Will test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.

Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight"—free.

LONDON, CALCUTTA, SHANGHAI, 55, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. 2, 59, Bentinck Street, 566, Nanking Road.
Hongkong, 27th November, 1905.

Dentistry.

Dr. M. H. CHAUN.

THE LATEST METHOD

of the

AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY.

37, DES VOUX ROAD CENTRAL.

From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Shanghai, 27th July, 1904.

TWIN TING.

LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.

STUDIO AT NO. 14, DAUGHTER STREET.

REASONABLE FEES.

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 30th July, 1904.

Mails.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

EUROPEAN LINE.

STEAM FOR

SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUET, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA.

ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG.

PORTS IN THE LEVANT, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS.

ALSO

LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND

SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

Steamers will call at GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers

and Luggage.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the principal places in Russia.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS.	SAILING DATES.
SEYDLITZ	WEDNESDAY, 16th January.
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY, 30th January.
GNEISENAU	WEDNESDAY, 13th February.
PRUSSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 27th February.
PRINZESS ALICE	WEDNESDAY, 13th March.
PRINZ LUDWIG	WEDNESDAY, 27th March.
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY, 10th April.
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY, 24th April.
PRINZ BITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY, 8th May.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 16th day of January, 1907, at Noon, the Steamship SEYDLITZ, Captain G. Dewers, with MAILED PASSENGERS, SPECIE AND CARGO, will leave this Port as above, Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, on MONDAY, the 14th January, Cargo and Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 15th January, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON, on TUESDAY, the 15th January.

Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2.50 and Parcels should not exceed Two Cubic Feet in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardesses.

Linen can be washed on board.

Passage Money payable in local currency at current eight Bank rate of exchange on the day of payment.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:

	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class
TO NAPLES, GENOA & GIBRALTAR ...	\$61.00	\$42.00	\$22.00
Return	91.00	63.00	33.00
TO SOUTHAMPTON, LONDON, BREMEN and HAMBURG	65.00	44.00	24.00
Return	97.00	66.00	36.00
* TO NEW YORK VIA SUEZ:			
Via NAPLES, GENOA OR GIBRALTAR ...	64.00	44.00	26.00
Return	115.00	79.00	47.00
Via BREMEN OR SOUTHAMPTON	68.00	46.00	27.00
Return	123.00	83.00	49.00

* In the event of the passenger leaving the Mail Steamer at Naples, Genoa or Gibraltair and travelling to Bremen or Southampton overland the same rates to be applied as via NAPLES, GENOA OR GIBRALTAR, but in this case the cost of the railway trip, etc., to be at passenger's expense.

TOUR VIA INDIA.

Passengers have the option of using a Steamer of the British India S. N. Co. from SINGAPORE TO CALCUTTA instead of an Imperial Mail steamer from Singapore to Colombo. The cost of the journey from Calcutta to Colombo by rail or steamer is however not included.

Interruption of the Voyage in Egypt.

Passengers to Europe and New York are entitled to travel by the N. D. L. Mediterranean Steamers from Alexandria to Naples or Marseilles instead of using an Imperial Mail Steamer from Port Said.

JAPAN-CHINA-AUSTRALIA LINE VIA NEW GUINEA.

STEAM FOR MANILA, SIMPSONHAFEN, FRIEDRICH-WILHELMSHAFEN, HERBERTSHOEHE, MATUPI, BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG

(Subject to alteration.)

STEAMERS.	Tons.	SAILING DATES.
MANILA	1,793	FRIDAY, 1st February.
PRINZ WALDEMAR	3,227	THURSDAY, 28th February.

ON FRIDAY, the 1st day of February, 1907, at Noon, the Steamship MANILA, Captain —, with Mails, Passengers and Cargo, will leave this port as above. The steamer has splendid accommodation and carries a Doctor and a Stewardess. Linen can be washed on board.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:

	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	1st Class	2nd Class
TO MANILA	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00	Return	\$50.00
TO NEW GUINEA	\$28.00	\$18.10	\$14.00	Return	\$47.15
TO BRISBANE	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$14.00	Return	\$47.15
TO SYDNEY	\$33.00	\$23.00	\$15.00	Return	\$49.10
TO MELBOURNE	\$34.10	\$24.10	\$16.00	Return	\$50.15
TO YOKOHAMA	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$14.00	Return	\$47.15
TO KOBE	\$35.00	\$25.00	\$15.00	Return	\$52.00
TO YOKOHAMA & back from KOBE to HONGKONG	\$140.00	\$100.00			

THROUGH RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:

	1st Class
TO EUROPE VIA AUSTRALIA AND COLOMBO by Imperial Mail Steamer	\$97.00
TO EUROPE VIA AUSTRALIA AND AMERICA	96.00
From Australia to New York via Vancouver by the C. P. R. Co's steamers, or via San Francisco by the O. S. S. Co's Steamers, and from New York to Europe by the magnificent express steamers of N. D. L.	

SAILINGS OUTWARDS.

EUROPEAN & AUSTRALIAN SERVICE.

FOR SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA] GNEISENAU

WEDNESDAY, 16th Jan.

TRANS-PACIFIC THROUGH TICKETS FROM HONGKONG.

Via VANCOUVER OR SAN FRANCISCO TO NEW YORK by the C. P. R. Co's steamers, P. M. S. S. Co, O. & O. S. S. Co, T. K. K. and from NEW YORK TO EUROPE by the magnificent Express steamers of the Norddeutscher Lloyd are issued at the following rates:

	1st Class
TO LONDON via PLYMOUTH OR SOUTHAMPTON	\$61.00
TO BREMEN	60.10
TO PARIS via CHERBOURG	60.00
TO NAPLES, GENOA via GIBRALTAR	60.00

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & CO.,

AGENTS.

Hongkong, 4th January 1907.

Intimations.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.

Length inside, 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 85 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 575 ft. Width of entrance, top 80.5 ft.; bottom 45.5 ft. Water on blocks, 28.5 ft. Time to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work, and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 376, 508, or 881.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A, B, C, 4th and 5th Edt.

Lieber, Sootts, A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905.

D. NOMA, TATTOOER.

60, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

THE Public are informed that my Parlours are open from 9 A.M. all day. My 31 years' experience in TATTOOING is a guarantee of good work and prompt execution. My Colours are absolutely fast and perfectly harmless, and produce a charming effect not attained by any other, as their composition is only known to me. H. R. H. The Duke of York, and H. I. H. The Emperor of Russia, both honoured me with their patronage; besides many others of High Rank. Prices Moderate and satisfaction guaranteed as attested by 3,700 Recommendations which I have received from all sources.
Hongkong, 16th November, 1905.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,

SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS,

COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS

AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

GROUND FLOOR,

ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING,

HONGKONG.

SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR

HARTMANN'S RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION RED HAND BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES.

Sole Agents for

FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM

and

P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR SCOTCH WHISKY, &c.

EVERY KIND OF

SHIPS STORES AND REQUISITES

ALWAYS IN STOCK

AT

REASONABLE PRICES.

Hongkong, 7th March, 1905.

[45]

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.

LI KWONG LOONG & CO.,

CABINET-MAKERS AND ART DECORATORS,

from Shanghai, has re-opened their

FURNITURE STORE

at

No. 55, DES VOUX ROAD CENTRAL.

The only Shop in Hongkong with this name.

WHERE HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE

of every description can be made to

order in any design required.

Have been patronised by the Hongkong Club,

Hongkong Hotel, Telegraph Co., Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Firms and other leading

Establishments in the Colony, to whom reference may be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd. write as follows:—

"We have pleasure in stating that, Mr. LI KWONG LOONG furnished the Annex to our Dispensary and gave us every satisfaction."

(Sd.) A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.

ORDERS punctually attended to, and CHARGES most moderate.

AN INSPECTION INVITED.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1906.

NOTICE

THE Public are hereby informed that a change has been made in the

Subscription to the Hongkong Telegraph, they are warned against paying

TEN CENTS (10 CTS.) per Single Copy.

THE

Hongkong, 20th September

For Sale.

TUBORG BEER.

A FIRST CLASS PILSENER BEER guaranteed free from Salicylic Acid, and any other Chemicals.

PRICE 5s. 10 per case of 48 bottles (quint) or 6 doz. pints.

Special Prices for Quantities.

Sole Agents—

SIEMSEN & CO.

Hongkong, 10th January 1907.

SELF-CURE NO FICTION!

MARVEL UPON MARVEL!

NO SUFFERER

NEED NOW DESPAIR

WITHOUT RISKING A DOCTOR'S BILL OR FALLING INTO THE

HANDS OF A QUACK! THERAPION

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Intimation.

Powell's

Ladies' Outfitters,
ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS.

**NEW
GOODS
NOW ON SHOW.**

**GOLF
JERSEYS**

White,
Navy,
Cardinal,
from \$5 each.

White and Pale Blue,
White and Navy,
White and Myrtle,
White and Red,
from \$5.25 each.

Splendid Value.

COSTUMES

Latest Styles,
Well Cut,
Smart,
from \$30 each.

**DAINTY
TAILOR-MADE**

SKIRTS

Serge,
Tweed,
Voile,
Cloth,
and Flannel,
from \$9.50 each.

**POWELL'S
HONGKONG.**

Hongkong, 31st December, 1906.

To Let.

TO LET.

No. 8, D'AGUIAR STREET,
suitable for
SHOP AND DWELLING
HOUSE,
at present occupied
by
Messrs. K. A. J. CHOTIM-
MALL & Co.,
who will shortly remove
to
No. 64, QUEEN'S ROAD
CENTRAL.

Apply to—
K. A. J. CHOTIMMALL & CO.
Hongkong, 12th November, 1906.

TO LET.

THE Premises known as No. 159, WANCHAI
ROAD, now occupied by Messrs. Macdonald
& Co.'s Engineering Works. Possession, 1st
February, 1907.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 4th January, 1907.

TO LET.

No. 1, WEST END TERRACE, Shamshu,
Canton.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 10th December, 1906.

TO LET.

"RANFURLY," CONDUIT ROAD.
OFFICES in KING'S BUILDING and
YORK BUILDING.
GODOWNS on PRIMA EAST.
A HOUSE in CLIFTON GARDENS, Con-
duit Road.
A HOUSE in RIFON TERRACE.
A HOUSE in WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD,
FLATS in MORETON TERRACE.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 14th December, 1906.

TO LET.

A HOUSE in KNUTSFORD TERRACE,
KOWLOON.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 31st July, 1906.

TO LET.

2 FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES at PRIMA
EAST, near East Point.

Apply to—
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.
Hongkong, 2nd January, 1907.

TO LET.

EUROPEAN SHOPS, OFFICES, and
GODOWNS (suitable for Dry Goods
Storage) at No. 14, Des Vaux Road Central,
(formerly occupied by Messrs. Shewan, Tomes
& Co.)

Apply to—
HO TUNG,
Comptroller Department,
Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Hongkong, 26th September, 1906.

TO LET.

NOS. 8 and 10, LEIGHTON HILL ROAD.
No. 51, WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD.

Apply to—
HONGKONG & KOWLOON LAND
& LOAN CO., LTD.,
No. 8, Queen's Road West,
Hongkong, 7th November, 1906.

**DO not make your Xmas Purchase before
you see**

A. CHAZALON & CO.,
6, Queen's Road Central.

Who have just received the Finest As-
sortment of ENGLISH and FRENCH
CONFECTIONERY from the best makers
of London and Paris.

ALSO
A Large Variety of LIQUORS, BOR-
DEAUX FORT, SHERRY, WHISKY, &c.,
&c., from the most renowned houses in France
and other foreign countries.

Hongkong, 10th December, 1906.

Mails.

**MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES**

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON,
SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
COLOMBO, CALCUTTA,
BOMBAY, ADEN, DJIBOUTI,
EGYPT, MARSEILLES.

LONDON, HAVRE, BORDEAUX, MEDITER-
RANIAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS.

The S.S. "YABBA."

Captain Sellier, will be despatched for
MARSEILLES on TUESDAY, the 5th
January, at 1 P.M.

This steamer connects at Colombo with the
Australian line s.s. *Ville de la Citadelle* bound for
Marseilles via Bombay and Aden.

Passage tickets and through Bills of Lading
issued for above ports.

Cargo also booked for principal places in
Europe.

Next sailings will be as follows:—
S.S. *SALAZIE* 22nd January.
S.S. *OCEANIE* 5th February.
S.S. *TOURANE* 19th February.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1906.



**THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.**

FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA,
INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITER-
RANIAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH
AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA,
PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERI-
CAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

H. E. Steamship

"SIMLA."

Captain C. D. Goldsmith, carrying His Ma-
jesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for
BOMBAY, on SATURDAY, the 12th January,
1907, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for
the above Ports in connection with the Com-
pany's S.S. *China*, 8,000 tons, from Colombo.
Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is
secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuable, all Cargo for France,
India and Tea for London (under arrangement)
will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail
steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and
London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be
conveyed from Bombay by the R.M.S. *Oceana*,
due in London on the 23rd February, 1907.

Parcels will be received at this Office until
the day before sailing. The Contents and
Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to—

E. A. HEWITT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 31st December, 1906.

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

BOSTON TOW-BOAT COMPANY.

Connecting at Tacoma with
NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY
COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR
VICTORIA, B.C. AND TACOMA.

VIA
MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer.	Tons.	Captain.	Sailing.
<i>Lyra</i>	4,417	H.C. Armstrong	12th Jan.
<i>Shawmut</i> ...	9,506	E. V. Roberts	23rd Jan.
<i>Tremont</i>	9,506	T. W. Garlick	26th Feb.

CHEAP FARES, EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION,
ATTENDANCE AND CUISINE, ELECTRIC
LIGHT, DOCTOR AND STEWARDESSES.

The twin-screw s.s. *Shawmut* and *Tremont*
are fitted with very superior accommodation
for first and second class passengers. The
large size of these vessels ensures steadiness
at sea. Electric fan in each room.

Barber's shop and steam-laundry. Cargo
carried in cold storage.

For further Information, apply to
DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
General Agents.

Queen's Buildings,
Hongkong, 5th January, 1907.

**REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE
TO NEW YORK,**

VIA PORTS AND SUZ CANAL,
(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.
FOR NEW YORK.
S.S. "SATSUMA"..... 19th January, 1907.
S.S. "SIKH"..... 9th February.

For Freight and further information, apply
to—
DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 26th December, 1906.

**THE REBUILDING OF SAN
FRANCISCO.**

VERY LITTLE PROGRESS.

A MUSHROOM CITY OF WOODEN SHANTIES.

The British Board of Trade Journal gives
the following particulars of the commercial and
financial outlook in San Francisco, extracted
from a report dated September 11, 1906, which
has been received, through the Foreign Office,
from H.M. Consul-General at the port (Mr. C.
W. Bennett, C.I.E.):—

Five months have now elapsed since the
earthquake, and there is very little sign of any
permanent construction. The mass of debris,
millions of tons of it, remains more or less
where it was. The amount removed is barely
noticeable, although in the aggregate it is
large. Some of the principal streets are cleared
sufficiently to allow of the passage of
electric cars and wheeled traffic, but except in
some of the main streets the pavements are
still more or less obstructed. A mushroom
city of wooden shanties, "shacks," has sprung
up on the edge of the burned district and near
the waterfront; street cars are running on
nearly all the old routes there, and vehicles of
other kinds are available for business.

Business is active, but the wholesale and
retail trade is much hampered for want of ware-
house and depots for strong stock. The volume
of trade has probably not much decreased, but
the nature of the goods sold is not what it was
before the disaster. Everything is of a cheaper
kind. Luxuries are not to be obtained. Men
who smoked shilling cigars now smoke three-
penny ones. Men who wore silk or other suits
of clothes made to order at seventy or eighty
dollars a suit, now buy ready-made clothing
at about twenty-five to thirty dollars a suit
and order half the number of suits or less.

Economy is practised in every direction.
Had things otherwise been normal, had the
insurance money been paid up well, and had
not labour troubles come in an acute form on
top of a disordered commerce, things might
have righted themselves more quickly. But
insurances in many cases have not been paid.
Several of the companies having "Earthquake
Clauses," have definitely refused. Some have
paid small claims of a few hundred dollars.
Other companies have paid up in full, others
again at a deduction varying from 10 to
50 per cent. In numberless cases the in-
surance money was required to organise the
business, or to tide over present difficulties.
It is not forthcoming and trading is hard. No
firm knows exactly how it stands. This applies
also to capitalists who, before the earthquake,
were millionaires.

Speculative trading after the disaster had
caused further losses. It was at once seen
for instance, that cement would be required in
large quantities. Several ships were chartered
to bring it over and the first arrivals were sold
at good prices. But every body ordered cement
and the market is overstocked and there is no
place to store it. The cash for these orders
was, as a rule, advanced by the banks against
the bills of lading. The banks lose, temporarily
at any rate, the advance made, and the con-
signees are still more deeply burdened with
debt.

San Francisco is thrown back practically to
the days of 1849, with this one exception, she
now has Transcontinental communication with
the Atlantic States and a steamship service on
the Pacific. This is an enormous advantage,
and will aid in re-establishing trade on new
lines.

It is questionable whether the payment of
insurance money has really benefited the in-
surers to any great extent, at any rate those
who were really in need of it. The case of
large insurers need not be considered for, as a
rule, the non-payment of insurance would not
break them. There were, however, an en-
ormous number of artisans, clerks, and junior
employees who had saved a little money and
purchased a piece of land. Sometime they
had paid the purchase money in full, in others
they had mortgaged their interests in the "lot"
to build a house and pay for it in instalments.
The savings bank were in the habit of advance-
ing to an owner three-fifths of the value of the
ground and of the house upon it. The fire
comes destroys the houses, the insurance
assigned to the savings bank was paid in
whole or in part (or was not paid at all),
and credited in part payment of the mortgage.
For the remainder of the mortgage the
bank forecloses, and the owner loses both lot
and house. Thousands of such cases will occur
and the insurance money will benefit only the
banks. The banks will, therefore, be loaded
up mainly with real estate barely worth a half
of the money advanced on it in the first
instance. In a few months the banks must
sell this mass of real estate, and at no doubt,
a considerable loss.

The commercial banks are extremely chary
as to making loans, which everybody wants,
as the clients have no security to offer.
Practically everything has been burned down,
business blocks, private houses, stocks—
nothing is left but vacant "lots" at times
already mortgaged, and covered with debris
which it will cost a large amount to remove to
make ready for building on.

Large sums formerly invested in California
have been withdrawn, and it is feared that
much more may be. In view of such a disaster,
as has recently befallen San Francisco, the
above facts are depressing enough, but all these
difficulties have been augmented a hundredfold
by labour troubles. If the earthquake made
outside capitalists cautious as to investments
in San Francisco, the labour question, now ad-
dressed, has frightened them still more.

Even before the earthquake and the advance
in wages a building could be put up in Los An-
geles, where labour unions are not supreme,
for 30 per cent. less than in San Francisco.
Now the cost of building is almost prohibitive,
and a man will think carefully before he puts up
at enormous cost buildings which can hardly
make any return on a capital invested. Finally,
the cost of living has increased fully 30 per
cent. since the fire.

THE TIME WILL COME.

The time will come—some day, some day, some
day—
When you will kneel and weep without my
gate,
In bitter anguish for each broken vow
That fell as berries from the faded bough.
But I shall answer you, it is too late!

The time will come—some day, some day, some
day—
When you will clasp the threshold of my
door,
Retreating only a moment there to stay;
And I perchance a word or two may say,
But not the words I said to you before.

The time will come—some day, be it soon or
late—
When you shall stand, a shuddering, soul
unshriven,
And crave one sign of me, ere God's high gate
May open, and I shall scorn you where you wait—
Endlessly loved; endlessly unforgiven!

—Pall Mall Gazette.

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

**INTERNATIONAL BANKING
CORPORATION.**

NOTICE.

HEREBY give notice that I have this day
RESUMED CHARGE of the HONGKONG
BRANCH of this Corporation.

CHAS. R. SCOTT.
Hongkong, 2nd January, 1907.

**CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
COMPANY.**

NOTICE.

IN conformity with telegraphic instructions
received from the HEAD OFFICE the
undersigned assumes charge of the Company's
business at Chong, from this date, in
succession to Mr. D. E. BROWN, transferred.

D. W. CRADDOCK,
General Traffic Agent for China.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1907.

NOTICE.

I HAVE this day admitted Mr. GEORGE
ANDREW HASTINGS as a Partner in
my business, and the same will from this date
be carried on under the style of "HASTINGS
& HASTINGS."

JOHN HASTINGS,
Solicitor, 38, Queen's Road Central
Hongkong, 1st January, 1907.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions
to sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION,
FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,
ON
WEDNESDAY,
the 9th January, 1907, at 2 P.M., at No. 4,
Queen's Road Central.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
SILVER AND IVORY WARE,
Comprising:—
SILVER BOWLS, CUPS, POWDER
BOXES, CARD CASES, VASES, SALT
CELLARS, BUCKLES, HAT PINS, &c., &c.;
ALSO
A quantity of CARVED IVORY FIGURES,
PHOTO FRAMES, &c., &c.;
AND
A number of SILK-EMBROIDERED
BED PILLOW, TABLE and CUSHION
COVERS.

Catalogues will be issued.
TERMS—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1907.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions
to sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION,
ON
WEDNESDAY,
the 23rd January, 1907, commencing at 1 P.M.,
on Board the "Rambler," the following:—
H.M. Surveying Vessel.

"RAMBLER,"
Single Screw, Composite built, Copper
Sheathed.

Displacement 835 tons.
Indicated Horse Power 650 N.D.
Extreme Length 163 ft. 3 in.
Extreme Breadth 29 ft. 6 in.
Built 1880.
Engines Compound Surface
Condensing, Horizontal,
by Elder.

Propeller One Griffith's Gun
metal.

Boiler Three Cylindrical
Direct Tubular.

Load on Safety Valves 60 lbs.
Distilling Condenser Two Normandy's
Single No. 10 distilling 2,688 gallons
of water per 24 hours.

"HULK "MIDGE,"
Late Twin Screw Gun Vessel, 693 tons,
Composite built, Copper Sheathed.

Length 155 ft. 0 in.
Breadth 25 ft. 0 in.
To be Sold as they now lie in Hongkong
Harbour, with all Fittings, &c., on board.

A list of Fittings, &c., to be Sold with H.M.S.
"Rambler," may be seen at the Office of the
Naval Store Officer, H.M. Naval Yard.

The Admiralty will not be responsible for
any errors in description of Ship, Fittings,
Stores, &c.

The Vessels will be OPEN TO INSPECTION
for Seven days before date of Sale, between 10
A.M. and Noon and 2 and 4 P.M. (Saturday and
Sunday excepted).

Inspecting Orders can be obtained from the
Auctioneers.

TERMS—Cash before delivery; 25 per cent.
of the purchase money to be paid on the fall of
the hammer; balance and the clearance to be
effected within 7 days after date of sale.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Government Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 26th December, 1906.

Intimations.

THE BRIGHT SIDE

of life. It is a feeling common to the majority
of us that we do not get quite the amount of
happiness we are entitled to. Among the count-
less things which tend to make us more or less
miserable ill health takes first place. Hannah
More said that this was generally to be attrib-
uted to biliousness. No doubt a crippled liver
with the resulting impure blood, is the
cause of more mental gloom than any other
single thing. And who can reckon up the
fearful aggregate of pain, loss and fear
raising from the many ailments and diseases
which are familiar to mankind; like a vast
cloud it hangs over a multitude no one
can number. You can see these people every-
where. For them life can scarcely be said to
have any "bright side" at all. Hence the
eagerness with which they search for relief and
cure. Remedies like

WAMPOL'S PREPARATION

have not attained their high position in the
confidence of the people by bald assertions
and "boasting" advertisements. They are
obliged to win it by doing actually what is
claimed for them. That this remedy deserves
its reputation is conceded. It is obtainable as
honey and contains the nutritive and curative
properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, combined
with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites
and the Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry.
Nothing has such a record of success in Scrofula,
Anemia, Throat and Lung Troubles, and
emancipating complaints and disorders, that tend
to undermine the foundations of strength and
vigour. Its use helps to show life's brighter
side. Dr. H. L. Reddy, B.A., M.D., L.R.C.S.,
Edinburgh, L.R.C.P. London, Physician
Woman's Hospital, Professor, University of
Bishops College, Canada, says: "I have much
pleasure in stating that I have used it in cases
of debility and have found it to be a very
valuable remedy as well as pleasing to take."
You can take it with the assurance of getting
well. It never disappoints. Sold by all
chemists.

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**THE HONGKONG
STUDIO.**

HIGHER CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER,
41 & 43, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
TOP FLOOR.

**PORTRAITS, GROUPS and ENLAR-
GING and COPYING in all Styles.**

**LARGE SELECTION OF VIEWS ALWAYS
ON HAND.**

PRICE VERY MODERATE.
Hongkong, 17th September, 1906.

KWONG SANG & Co.,
No. 79, WELLINGTON STREET.

**GENERAL DRAPERS, MANUFAC-
TURERS and DEALERS in Ladies'
and Children's Underwear, Silk, Pongee, Grass,
cloth, Fancy and Piece Goods, &c.**

Latest style of Ladies' Blouses and Gentle-
men's Shirts made to order.

TRIAL ORDER SOLICITED.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1906.

**THE WINE GROWERS
SUPPLY CO.**

BARRETTO & Co.,
General Agents, Hongkong.

HOUEURS.

L. ROZET & CO., BORDEAUX.

Special Brands.

Apricot Brandy 2.50 Per Bottle Quart.

Blackberry Brandy 2.50

Cherry Brandy 1.75

Cherry Whisky 1.60

Cognac-Jaune 2.75

Imperial Orange

Brandy 2.75

Mandarin Brandy 2.50

Pepp. Brandy 2.50

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841

CHAMPAGNE

DE
ST. MARCEAUX
& CO.
REIMS
1898 Vintage.



VIN BRUT AND VERY DRY.

Per Case 1 doz. quarts\$8.00

" 2 doz. pints..... 50.00

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,
AGENTS.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906.

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NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, The House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE)
DAILY—\$30 per annum.
WEEKLY—\$15 per annum.
The rates per quarter and per annum, proportional. The daily issue is delivered free when the address is accessible to messengers. On copies sent by post an additional \$1.50 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue in any part of the world is 90 cents per quarter.
Single Copies, Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

DEATH.

On December 29, at Shanghai, MARION FORD, beloved mother of C. F. Greenwood, aged 72 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1907.

OUR BEGGAR POPULATION.

Some months ago, in obedience to the numerous complaints of local residents, the police authorities made a series of raids on the beggars who infested the main streets of the Colony. They were such an unmitigated nuisance that their clearance was appreciated by everybody. For some time this satisfactory state of affairs continued, but now the old condition of things has returned, and the pedestrian is "held up" at every street corner and even in the middle of Queen's Road itself under the very eyes of the police. A correspondent states that in the course of a walk along Battery Path he was challenged no less than a dozen times by relays of beggars, who had clear marked lines of demarcation which were in no case exceeded. It is extremely annoying to be followed by a whining child who has been sent out by an elder to work upon the sympathy and the sensibility of the foreign population. It has not escaped the notice of the lower classes that at this season of the year people are more inclined than at other times to undo their purse-strings, and, accordingly, the ancient device of educating a child in the baneful art of crying "poverty" has been adopted by the unscrupulous rascals who are in waiting to see whether the appeal to the charitable is rewarded. Those who have occasion to perambulate the principal thoroughfares at all hours can fully bear out the statement that a perfect epidemic of beggary has broken out and if one should be so foolish as to give the

applicant a dole, he is a marked person for evermore. While there are cases in which indiscriminate charity may be pardoned, nothing can be said in favour of its practice in this Colony. There is an organised band at work who have marked out their respective districts, and pursue their game with an energy and assiduity which, if directed into proper channels, would assuredly make for success. Of course it is seldom the resident who encourages these parasites to prey on his good nature, for he knows by long experience that the slightest sign of weakness on his part will lead the beggars to believe that he is their patron for ever. No doubt one is inclined to give a trifle if only to get rid of the immediate nuisance at one's heels. It is the transient visitor who is really responsible for the creation of these pests, and especially the lavish American with his generous benevolence. The European is generally well informed regarding the *modus operandi* of beggar guilds, and has had practical evidence of their operations in the capitals of Europe. Those who have seen the brigands who line the quays of Genoa and Naples—and all travellers by the Norddeutscher Lloyd have had that opportunity—know how difficult it is to escape the demands of the sturdy rascals who, by every trick under the sun, seek to charm the nimble coin out of the visitor's pocket. But the American who has not journeyed beyond Manila is not accustomed to those sights, and is apt to be worked upon by the doleful sight of a miserable child pleading for a meal. There is no need for such generosity and no necessity why Hongkong should become a byword abroad. The police should take the matter in hand and, leaving the gamblers alone for a few days, turn their attention to this fester in the very centre of the city.

STOESSEL'S NEW TRIAL.

There seemed to be little in the grim aftermath of the Russo-Japanese war to arouse the risibilities of the bystander, and nothing connected with the surrender of Port Arthur and the subsequent trial of Stoessel appeared to be conducive to mirth. It was all the other way, for no matter which of the combatants one supported there was no denying the steadfast earnestness of each. Humour lurks unconsciously everywhere, however, and it has cropped up in one of the most unexpected places, the chief characters being no less personages than General and Mrs. Stoessel. It seems that while Port Arthur was besieged, it certain Mrs. Poudsky, the widow of a captain of the same name, kept, no doubt as a stand-by, two cows and a calf. These she treasured as the most valuable of her possessions and lavished more than housewifely care upon them. Early and late she kept an eye on them, fed them when she was half-starved herself, neglected her children, if she had any, to nurse the calf, and ministered to its infant ailments with an assiduity which made even the mother cow jealous. Hearing of these cows and the calf, General Stoessel gave many anxious thoughts to their condition and may even have contemplated the expropriation of the bovine creatures. But fate willed otherwise, for the Japanese were pressing him on all sides and it was only a question of time when Port Arthur would be surrendered into the hands of the enemy. The fateful day arrived when General Stoessel felt himself obliged in the interests of humanity to give up his sword and admit the superiority of the Japanese invaders, and Port Arthur was no longer a Russian fortress. The *Japanese Advertiser*, which has translated the story from Russian newspapers, states that General Stoessel came forward in defence of his wife. From our contemporary's translation it would appear that the general laid the responsibility on the Japan Government, because the cows had been taken prisoners, and he begged the Court to award his wife 25 roubles from Mrs. Poudsky, as legal costs. In the event of the Court not consenting to accept his statement he prayed that, before deciding the case, some arrangement should be made for the examination of witnesses, a large number of whom lived in China and Japan, with the object of explaining the circumstances, very important in the case, that the cows were almost dead, and that their keep, owing to the dearth of everything at that time, amounted to something like 500 roubles a month, and for the entire two months to about one thousand roubles, for which sum he, Stoessel, at the request of his confidants and wife, set up a counter-claim against the ex-captainess. Mrs. Stoessel amplified her husband's testimony by declaring that the feed of the cows was not a 1,000 roubles but 1,500, but she, having compassion for the position of the ex-captainess, voluntarily, reduced the amount due and prayed that only one thousand roubles be awarded her! The unfortunate part of the thing is that we do not learn how the trial ended, but the picture of the widow and her cows, not omitting to mention the calf, and the commandant and his wife, who, also, had an eye on the two cows, etc., is surely the height of pure, unadulterated farce. As a contemporary says it is reducing the tragedy of war to the level of opera bouffe.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

There will be no excursion of the steamer *Honam* to Macao to-morrow.

The German mail of the 5th December was delivered in London on the 3rd inst.

"HAVE you any witnesses to call?" asked Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, of a cooler who was charged with creating a disturbance in the public street. "I am here to be a witness for myself," replied the cooler. "That's what I came up here for."

The entries for the Football Challenge Shield are as follows:—H.M.S. *King Alfred*, H.M.S. *Diadem*, Hongkong Football Club, Hongkong Rugby Club, "A" Co., "F" Co., and "G" Co. 3rd Middlesex Regt. Royal Engineers, Royal Artillery, Y.M.C.A., Lusitano F.C. and K.A.A. N.C.

"HAVE you ever been convicted before?" Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, asked a defendant at the Police Court, this morning. "What?" returned the Chinaman, with some feeling of surprise. "Not as yet. I have only been here two days!" His first conviction was registered there and then.

MESSERS. H. Price & Co., wine merchants, have just received samples of new bottle stoppers which are of original design, and excellently formed. They are also showing corks which should be used after the ordinary cork has been removed. Both designs have only to be seen to be appreciated.

Mr. F. A. Hazeland, first police magistrate, could not preside at the Police Court this morning owing to illness. Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, the second magistrate, sat in the large Court and disposed of the few petty cases that were brought before him. In consequence of Mr. Hazeland's illness several cases, which came directly under his notice, had to be postponed, including the decision in the Golding—Indian soldiers assault case, which was billed for to-day.

THREE sampans, who were charged before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, this morning, at the Police Court, at the instance of P. C. Berrie, of the Water Police, with dredging in the man-of-war anchorage yesterday afternoon, pleaded guilty to the accusation, and were each fined \$10. Immediately after a naval vessel has been coaled it is the custom of the sampans folk to rush to the scene like vultures and commence dredging for those pieces of coal that have dropped overboard during the coaling of the vessel.

TANG E, who said she was a widow, sixty years of age, was arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, to-day, on a charge of removing a certain landmark, to wit, a stone defining a certain lot of land, at Pak Shu Lung, New Territory, on the 29th ultimo. "I did not remove the stone," pleaded the old lady. "I simply would not allow them to put up the mark as the land on which they desired to place the stone belongs to our ancestors." A cooler was called and he stated that he was ordered by the P. W. D. to place the landmark on this ground. He did so, but accused Tang E of putting it up. His Worship informed the old dame that she was old enough to know better, and bailed her over in the sum of \$100 to be of good behaviour for six months.

FOLLOWING are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation, and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st December, 1906, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$2,378,057	\$2,300,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	12,651,879	9,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	119,702	45,000
Total	\$1,549,638	\$11,345,000

POLICE Sergeant Lee and a number of plain clothes men from No. 2 Police Station raided last evening a house at No. 1, Albany Street, where it was stated, gambling was being carried on. When the police entered the house, the door of which was wide open—they found in a room big enough to hold a large crowd, a number of coolies deeply interested in a game of *Yankee*. Some of the gamblers got very much excited when they saw the officers and made a dash for liberty. Many succeeded in getting away and the manner they went about it was dangerous in the extreme. The police captured nineteen men, whom they arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, on the usual gambling charges. The two leaders were fined \$25 each, and the remainder, but one—a lad—who was discharged on account of his age, were asked to pay \$5 apiece.

WHILE Lukong 460 was on duty in police launch No. 2 at Cheung-sha-wan yesterday he noticed that a man on board a fishing junk had suddenly thrown something into the bay. Expecting something to happen the Lukong kept his eye on the people on board the junk and on the water. After about six seconds he heard a stifled explosion and saw the water near where the "something" was thrown rise several feet. "Full speed ahead" rang on the telegraph and the police-launch was soon alongside the fishing junk. "Fishing with dynamite?" said the Lukong when he got on board the junk. "Come along with me." He arrested the master of the junk, placed him on board the launch, and taking the junk, if you brought the whole outfit back to Hongkong. Police Sergeant Jackson charged the owner of the fishing craft before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, with the offence, but applied for a postponement. According to him, further inquiries were necessary before the case could proceed. The case was adjourned.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

HONGKONG BRANCH MEETING.
OUR RELATIONS WITH THE CHINESE PEOPLE.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong branch of the China Association was held in the City Hall Buildings, this afternoon. Mr. Murray Stewart presided and those present were the Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Messrs. D. R. Law, A. G. Wood, H. E. Tompkins, W. Parlane, T. P. Cochrane, G. C. Moxon, G. Balloch, S. V. Hogg, C. H. Ross, G. Osborne and H. T. Butler.

Mr. M. Stewart, in proposing the adoption of the annual report, said:—Gentlemen, when a homeward-bound P. and O. vanishing in a sunlit trail of smoke carried your late Chairman away from the Colony and his duties devolved upon me for the sole though inadequate reason that all the other members of your committee were too busy to undertake them, I was reminded of the old story of Elphaz being caught up in a chariot of fire, and of the predicament of his successor, left disconsolate with a mantle several sizes too large for him, uneasily contemplating the difficulties of the post thus dramatically vacated. Such a far-fetched idea may seem to some of you, in the absence of any clear perception of the risks involved in your Chairman's duties, to require an explanation. It is not to be found in a desire unduly to magnify my office. I do not wish to take too much upon myself. Nor do I forget that your confidence reposes on the knowledge that the risk of writing or saying the wrong thing, of thus committing this branch of the Association to a false position, is reduced to a minimum by the wisdom in council of the rest of the members of Committee. Indeed, it has been their support that has pulled me through the risks to which I have alluded, risks increased by recent events.

THE NEW CHINA.

China is changing. So are the overlying hills. But China is changing in a rather more palpitating way. I mean by the statement just what everyone else means who makes it. That is how you may know it is true. The fertilising stream of foreign commerce flowing evermore freely into the sluggish Yellow River of the old national life has greatly altered its character; moreover, its course has deviated noticeably of late as an unexpected result of the influence exerted by the erection in the North of the great Dai Nippon dam across Manchuria. The waters of the river have broken down the old banks in many places and the lower levels of the great Chinese Common are more than usually dry in consequence. It is not a new fancy that views the waste spaces, and long and dreary stretches of flat, boggy land, as a veritable Slough of Despond. But owing to the rising of the river the going is worse than ever. The old causeway of Force which used to lead through the Slough is submerged and abandoned and the only way across is along paths not marked on any map—paths as slippery and treacherous as the paddy bunds after heavy rain. It is annoying to find progress so slow and disheartening, to have to face the fact that these things have got to get worse before they can get better. But there is this reflection to console us. When the river subsides down into some new bed and the water subside, the fields will be much more fertile than ever before. Remember that the stream which is causing the present inconvenience is a life-giving stream. The story of its origin and the rise and flow is the history of the world. You know the saying that "History, so called, is but a comment on the history of commerce." It is an illuminating remark. The stream of commerce is the exciting cause of civilisation with which we are familiar. When it flowed into China by land across Asia it stimulated into existence the civilisation with which we are familiar. When it was cut off through the breakdown of the old land routes this civilisation was arrested and remained for many centuries "marking time." Only when the stream eventually found its way round the South did the process of new birth begin. The events that have pursued each other during the last century with increasing rapidity to disturb the old equilibrium of the Far East are merely the throes indicating the inevitable internal pause.

A CYCLE OF CATHAY.

Sixty years of open ports—a cycle of Cathay—has created a powerful commercial class in whose minds western ideas, long fermenting, have at last produced a remarkable brew of new wine. Its expansive force is telling upon the inelastic sides of the old bottles. These are strained almost to bursting point. When that is reached some say we shall all see red. I eschew the prophecy as far as possible. I see only this. The cleverer young men of the rising generation are pushing their way forward by new roads. The steep and stony steps up the paths of literary achievements are no longer the only way to influence and power. The man of action is coming to the front. The soldier is no longer despised. He is even encouraged and made much of. He is even paid. It would almost appear as if our old friends, the *littérati*, were being relegated to the back seats of honour. Many observers view these changes with concern. They see in them signs that China is transferring her allegiance from the old rule of propriety to a blind worship of force. There is danger in attaching too much importance to this view. It impresses too deeply the imagination of overstrained politicians. It tends to paralyse diplomacy. It weakens the knees of the foreign Power. On the other hand there is danger in attaching too little meaning to the manifest fact that the mind of modern Mandarinism is bent on the creation of big battalions, even more persistently than on the manufacture of small coins. I refrain from attempting to make a cheap point of comparison between the two. That would seem like levity. But it is to be hoped that the soldiers are better shod than the coolies. In this matter the danger to which we old foreign pe-

sidents in particular are exposed, is in falling too lightly on the idea of China, profiting by Mr. Haldane's clear thinking and becoming a nation in arms. The mere fact that we are talking about it is all to say nothing of the fact that the whole world is thinking about it. It is a significant sign of the times. It was the risk of misreading these that constituted the danger I foresaw in taking up my present position. Many other significant signs of the times have appeared in China during the year that has just closed. One of the most significant was the despatch of the late Commission round the world with the ostensible object of discovering some more suitable system than the old ways provide for storing the raw product of fermenting liquor already referred to. Many Far Eastern residents felt qualms about it. Pictures in the illustrated papers, Commissioners fumbling with the Prime Minister and other prominent politicians gave rise to fears that the attitude of the British Government in dealing with Chinese questions might not be strengthened thereby. There is certainly no evidence to show that it was strengthened. Whether it was in any degree weakened—a probable aim of the Committee, true to the traditions of its great Burlingame prototype—may some day appear. Some contemporary diarist may describe an offer of congratulations by the Commissioners to certain Cabinet ministers on their efforts to reduce the already insufficient fighting strength of their own country and, with that, her overseas influence. He will not relate that he heard them and that China was steadily aiming to increase hers. He may not have noticed anything held in anyone's cheek. In the meantime it is noteworthy that the visit of the Commission took place in April and that the voice of the charmer was never so distinctly heard as in Peking during early May. The ninth of that month was the date of the Customs Edict. But we may perhaps indulge the theory that, whatever by-products were hoped for from it, the main business of the Commission was to originate a method of retaining within bounds of safety the expansive political and economic forces set free by the action of foreign intercourse. Mandarinism's emissaries safely circumbulated the globe and duly delivered themselves of a report. An Edict has resulted.

THE EDICT'S EFFECT.

Its effect, if any, will be to create a certain number of poor copies of foreign political institutions. That prospect has nothing to do with this story. In the first Anglo-Chinese war the mandarin in charge at Chihai, in Chusan memorialised the Throne reporting that the foreign devils did not fight fair and that he was consequently unable to repel them inasmuch as they possessed ships capable of moving without sails. A second mandarin said that he had seen such ships and that he was quite prepared to make them. The first complaint was superseded in his command by this confident gentleman who proceeded to rig out some kind of a junk in the likeness of a foreign ship with two masts and funnel. In a well at the lower end of the funnel he made a bonfire so that smoke appeared satisfactorily out of the top. He could not make out why vessel remained stationary. Neither could the higher officials who had taken his promise. No one could realise that the driving power of the foreign devils' internal invention was something unseen in the heart of the thing. Without the driving power of a national faith capable of lifting the individual up and enabling him to sink some part of his selfishness in higher aims for the common good, no mere copying of external designs in social or governmental mechanism can avail. It is difficult to make out much less to steer a safe middle course between sympathy with genuine patriotism and an antipathy with a spurious article extensively masquerading as such. Many would-be reformers may personally be honest but they must not obscure the fact that some of the changes which they aim at may not be genuine reform or restrain anyone from opposing them. Take a case in point—the question that has exercised us all so much during the past year—the change wrought by the Edict of the 9th May in the administration of the I.M. Customs. A true Chinese patriot honestly desirous of reforming the national institutions would not start by attempting to change the order obtaining in the only well-organised and honestly administered government department. He would begin his crusade elsewhere. He would agitate for change where it is needed. He would agitate for it *everywhere except in the Customs Service*. Oddly enough, adverse criticism on the methods and motives of the officials who instituted this raid on the Customs Administration has been misrepresented as a display of hostility towards the legitimate aspirations of the Chinese people. In fact, as originating in a attitude unfriendly to China. Nothing could be further from the truth. As far as this Association is concerned it was and is our belief that if the raid had been completely successful Chinese credit would have suffered severely. In our view the ultimate effect would have been to hamper honest trade, to promote smuggling, to foster corruption. It is a strange sort of unfriendliness that works to hinder the progress of such misfortunes.

A QUESTION OF UNFRIENDLINESS.

An enemy wishing evil to overtake the old Middle Kingdom would have rejoiced in the complete success of the original aim of the Edict. Anyone who wanted to see China getting into a hopeless mess again would have welcomed the threatened upset. Precisely for the opposite reason we are desirous to prevent it. We thought that we saw clearly enough that the assurances offered were an insult to the intelligence not only of the British Mercantile Community but of all foreigners. They certainly were. They were probably meant to be; but whether meant to be insulting or not there was never any doubt as to their business meaning, not at least in the minds of business men. In the mind of any business man it meant, we imagine, have been clear from the outset, that the assurances plained off upon the Legation and quoted in the House of Commons, to ally public opi-

nions in England, were false and fraudulent from beginning to end. Business men tend to judge promptly and accurately. These were the qualities which might have saved the situation, before it developed out of all control. Now people at Home who have no complaint to say: "Would you have noticed England to risk an inconvenient war over the salt?" This question is an annoying one. Engagements in China seem to be regarded by many Home critics of Far Eastern politics as a particularly blood-thirsty lot. We are thought to be always wanting to make war. We want our treaty rights. If diplomacy cannot get them for us we grumble, that is all. We would even grumble if it were not that diplomacy tries to treat us like children. To be told that the Customs Edict made no change made us all angry for this reason. We imagined that diplomacy might perhaps succeed in instituting a foreign combine against the designs of the wreckers. That was our mistake, nothing worse. War is the last thing we want. But we are, moreover, misrepresented as being filled with prejudice against the people among whom we live. Because we stick to the social ideals of the Germanic people and prefer to mix only with those who observe them, we are assumed to be the victims of that wicked race hatred which is believed to course like malaria in the blood of European residents in the tropics. And because of this wicked race hatred which is supposed to oppress our minds, our opinions on all questions are heavily discounted in advance. I have an idea that opinions emanating from Hongkong are especially badly off in this way. Perhaps this is how I came by the idea. At the time of the massacre of a body of missionaries near Foochow a meeting was held here in this hall and a telegram—possibly rather an indignant message—was despatched against the Foreign Office, protesting against the matter being treated as of no importance. I happened to be in Glasgow at the time and to see an article in Glasgow's leading morning paper on the subject. It discussed the matter with the calm detachment and disinterestedness which is easily ten thousand miles away and flanked up by alluding to the meeting in Hongkong and to the telegram giving the resolution passed at it, by saying that, in some cases, whatever the Foreign Office might in their wisdom decide to do, the last people whose opinion should be considered were "the shrieking colonials of Hongkong."

This utterance indicates sufficiently well the attitude with which many Home critics view our opinions. It should be one of the aims of the China Association to correct this error; to persuade the Home folks that we are not such peculiar people as many of them assume, but men of like passions with themselves and, when it comes to business, with no more passionate views. If in writing on the Imperial Maritime Customs question we displayed more passion than would be thought proper in a Foreign Office despatch I trust it may be overlooked. The heat of our views is receiving justification continually. You will have seen the telegram in Wednesday's *China Mail* of the year's Edicts the two, to which I have alluded, are by far the most important. But there have been many others all more or less displaying the old faith in the efficacy of fair words and a new belief in political machinery as such.

People who believe that national character has deeper origins will not be very sanguine of great results.

HAS CHINA CHANGED?

As regards the latter it is to say the least of it, doubtful whether China has changed at all, or, if at all, whether it has not been for the worse. Since the earliest days of our diplomatic relations with Mandarinism there has never been any discovery made of an active principal of good faith. We should like to record evidence of this discovery. But exciting as the events of the past year have been, there has been nothing as wildly exciting as that. There seems to be no greater avidity to meet treaty obligations than formerly. We have noticed no sign of it in respect of the Mackay Treaty. On the contrary, evidences of a wholesale desire to repudiate engagements are chiefly reported from Peking. In this matter also there is the oddest adverse criticism of foreign residents in China for venturing to protest against the encouragement of the Chinese Government in this attitude. Our old friend the *Spectator* took us a badly to task not long ago in this matter. The Editor seemed to lose sight of the fact that in advocating resistance to Mandarinism's lapses from grace Englishmen resident in China display an unreasonable impudence with, and hostility to, the Chinese people. It is often important to keep in mind a distinction between the word *China*, meaning Mandarinism, and the same word to mean the Chinese people. With these two interests, of the entire foreign mercantile community are manifestly bound up. This cannot be said Mandarinism. Though its ranks are recruited from the people its interests are in many respects opposed to the general good. Hence the fact that the foreign merchant and the Chinese trader are frequently at one in being against the Government. Criticism of the latter by foreign residents is seldom indicative of an unsympathetic attitude towards China. The Chinese people. It may be, on the contrary and generally, indicative of a wish for their welfare as distinguished from the officials. But without narrowing the view down so far as to make this distinction necessary I claim to speak a broad truth when I say that the British mercantile community in China is not the whole friendly to China and anxious to see her coming wall out of the difficult problems of the economic revolution ahead. At the mouthpiece of the community the China Association has done its best in the past to make this plain. For instance, I think, are naturally inclined to a sympathetic understanding of the difficulties of the Chinese. Our own sense of conservative instincts make us respect the old.

THE MOST CONSERVATIVE OF US ALL
Respectfully we beg to assure the Chinese people that we are not the least friendly to them.

the world. Personally, I have much in common with the laudably mediocrity that is passing away. If I am impressed by its quality, I appreciate its picturesqueness. I like many of the old ways. I respect the Chinese for not taking them too lightly, and I realize the hardness of the task of conscientious officials who are called upon to find, somewhat suddenly, new methods to meet the instant needs of the thing. I claim that the criticism of the Chinese Government contained in the representations made by the Chinese Association during the year have been dictated by a sane view of what constitutes friendship for China. We have protested against attempts to repudiate agreements and responsibilities. I can understand China's enemies encouraging her in the repudiation of engagements. I cannot understand those who pose as her friends condoning it. I may be old-fashioned, but I am glad to be—but I cannot believe that a Government any more than an individual can prosper in the long run by acquiring a reputation for unreliability. China's true friends are those who wish to see her keeping faith with the nations; mending a good name for dependability; maintaining her credit intact; increasing her people's wealth by improved communications and by the same means unifying her scattered strength. The welfare of China lies along these lines, not along routes involving fantastic reform or leading to military ambition. This is the view that has governed our policy during the past year. This is the faith that has inspired our utterances. Whether these have been of the smallest avail is a speculative question into which I do not propose to go. Many people will tell you that the work of the Chinese Association is, in addition to being a witness to the flesh, mere vanity and vexation of spirit. They look for results. They ask us to show them some. It is difficult. It reduces us to silence. We are all dumb dogs. We cannot bark.

In this dilemma I sometimes think of a fair scene and of a fairer form of strife. I once spent a very interesting morning watching some Japanese artillery bombarding the east wall of the Tartar City of Peking. I remember thinking that the busy gunners did not seem to be doing much good. Their shells were flying high over the battlements from whose embrasures halfhearted defenders had lately been successfully preventing the efforts of storming parties of infantry to blow up the great gate which towered in front. The firing seemed too high. It did not seem to get down to the business of the attack. They struck the watch tower occasionally and sent clouds of brick dust flying but mostly they sailed over towards the Forbidden City and burst in little rings like a cigarette smoke makes. It seemed rather ineffective. But afterwards when we got inland and wandered about the place and saw where the shells had been crashing, having and realizing what the feelings of the attacked Palace officials must have been when the rain of shrapnel came down it became probable that the influence of the artillery fire, was perhaps after all not inconsiderable in hastening the movements of the Court. In the same way, perchance, our activities which sometimes seem so fruitless may in some unseen way do a little good.

This is the faith—the blind faith—by which the work is carried on. Driven by it I have the temerity to invite you to vote for the adoption of the report, which has been in your hands for some days, and to pass the account. This I now formally move.

Mr. Ballock seconded the adoption of the motion, remarking that while he fully appreciated the chairman's able address, he thought some reference might have been made to the currency and opium questions and the Kowloon-Canton railway scheme.

Mr. Pollock, K.C., noted that the membership of the branch was very small being only 66, out of about 5 per cent. of the British adult population in the Colony.

The Chairman explained in answer to Mr. Ballock that the members of the Committee were not unanimous on the currency question. With regard to opium, he did not think the time had arrived to deal with that subject and on the subject of the Kowloon-Canton railway the report brought that matter fairly well before the public and he trusted played the game.

The report was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Pollock moved, and Mr. Cochrane seconded, the resolution of the committee *en bloc*, which was agreed to.

A REMINISCENCE OF THE TYPHOON.

LORD ELOIN'S APPRECIATION OF LOCAL EFFORTS.

The following despatch, addressed to His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan, is published in the *Gazette* by order of the Officer Administering the Government.

Downing Street,
30th November, 1906.
Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, No. 238 of October 4th and No. 262 of October 22nd, in which you report the effects of the Typhoon which passed over the Colony on September 18th.

I have already expressed the deep regret with which His Majesty's Government have received the intelligence of the loss of life and damage to property caused by this catastrophe.

I note with great appreciation the testimony which you bear to the conduct of Government officers and other members of the community in connection with the Typhoon and I have to convey to you my cordial approval of the measures which you have taken.

I have, etc.,
ELOIN.

Governor Sir M. Nathan, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c.

A CIGARETTE hawk and a cross-eyed Chinese woman figured in the dock before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, this morning, at the Police Court, on a charge of fighting in the public street, at Wanchai yesterday. The hawk, it appears, went to a street tap yesterday morning to get a bucketful of water. At the tap he met the second defendant, who was then filling one of her jars. Without any apology the hawk brushed the woman aside, upsetting and smashing a jar, and started to fill his bucket. The infuriated woman stepped aside and picking up her bamboo pole brought it down with some violence on the hawk's head. Then, according to the hawk himself, she dusted the street with him. After she had got her satisfaction out of him, she turned her attention to his stall. When she was finished with the street was littered with cigarette. The hawk went to protect his stall, but another crack on the cranium with the pole soon showed him that business was meant. A policeman came on the scene and took the pair in charge. They had to pay \$1 each.

THE CLUB LOST AND FOUND.

PETITION FOR WINDING UP.

In Original Jurisdiction this morning, before His Honour the Chief Justice, the matter of the petition for leave to wind up the Lusitano Club, Ltd., adjourned, from yesterday, was resumed. Counsel for the several parties appearing as before.

The Court-room was again crowded with a representative gathering of the Portuguese community who followed the proceedings with the keenest interest.

On taking his seat his Honour the Chief Justice, addressing Hon. Mr. Pollock, said that it might be convenient if he gave him a suggestion at starting, before he opened his address. Of course, it was subject to anything that Mr. Slade might have to say, but he did not think that under any circumstances could he dismiss the petition, but he was ready to adjourn the matter for four months, if that was agreeable, as that would give them time to examine the books, and, if they desired it, to prepare new Articles of Association.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: But I have not begun my address, my Lord, and I consider it necessary that I should address your Lordship as I have some facts to mention that have not yet been put before your Lordship.

His Honour: Yes, of course, you can address me now.

HON. MR. POLLOCK'S ADDRESS.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: As to Mr. Leiria's affidavit which was filed yesterday morning we have not had time to reply. His reference to the Naval and Military officers practically boycotting the Club altogether is not ad. As a matter of fact the officers of two of the largest Portuguese warships that were in port in 1902 and 1903 joined the Club—the officers both senior and junior of the *Vasco da Gama* and the *Adamastor*; and the commander of the gunboat also spent his evenings in the Club playing bridge. I don't know that this will have any actual bearing to influence your Lordship, but it is well to mention the point in reference to Mr. Leiria's affidavit. Mr. Pollock then referred to Mr. A. M. Rosa Pereira's affidavit which was an important one and which had not been read by Mr. Slade yesterday. Continuing, Mr. Pollock said: I wish to point out that of the 28 clients of my learned friend (Mr. Slade) only ten are members of the Club. That is an important point that I think your Lordship will take into consideration. In other words, my Lord, roughly speaking, only one-third of my friend's clients are members of the Club and uninterested in the continuance of the Club. I think that is an important one and one which, I have no doubt, your Lordship will note.

His Lordship: You say there are 41 shareholders who stand by.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: There are 41. Continuing to read from Mr. Pereira's affidavit, Counsel pointed out that of the 37 members he represented there are no less than 33 members of the Club as well as shareholders in the Company.

Mr. Slade: If my learned friend will allow me to interrupt for a moment, I would like to say here that I am instructed by the directors, through their solicitors, to state that they are of opinion that a winding up order should be made but they neither supported nor opposed this application, leaving it entirely in the hands of the Court. Therefore the statement that had been made that 41 members were neutral was subject to this modification.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: There is a way out of the present pecuniary difficulties. I wish to bring an important point to your Lordship's notice. This Company and any Company—whether commercial or otherwise—has power to sell or charge its property, or any part of such property, in order to save it from execution. Continuing, Mr. Pollock argued that all companies had the power to sell or charge its property for the purpose of raising money to pay its debts, when it was necessary to save it from being seized in execution, and then he proceeded to quote authorities in support of his argument. It was a very common-sense proposition. Instead of waiting for the bailiffs to come in and seize the property, it was more reasonable to raise the money on the property and so save the execution in case of a judgment against the Company. Learned Counsel continued to quote, at some considerable length, further authorities bearing upon the point, all of which were recent cases. What was the use of the Company standing by while the property, furniture, etc. of the Club was sold up to pay their debts, when it could be prevented by the Company charging its property.

His Honour: But they don't seem to have come to that point.

Mr. Pollock: I will establish my facts as I proceed, my Lord, and I will show from the affidavit that a resolution was passed at a meeting of the shareholders to raise money to pay off the debt. But no meeting was necessary, as the Directors, by article 69 of the Articles of Association, had power conferred on them to do all things for the benefit of the Club, and the construction of this article was that directors were enabled to charge the property for the benefit of the Club. That meant that the directors might do what a meeting of the Company could do. The directors have the power under the article to borrow, and the authorities quoted substantiated that point, for they laid down that the power conferred on the directors included the power to borrow. An important point is that a company cannot be considered insolvent if it possesses legal means of liquidating its debts, and it is within the power of the directors to do all things that do not contravene the Articles of Association. Here is no question of insolvency, for they have legal means of getting money to liquidate their debts. Mr. Pollock next quoted a case as to the test of insolvency and read his authority. He referred to the petitioner's statement as to the expenses of the Company having for some time exceeded its income. There were no figures to support that statement, and they were very much in the dark what the income and expenditure had been. It stands to common sense that no

Company can be considered insolvent when the directors had the power and the means of liquidating the debts of that company. If they had the power to institute, prosecute, compromise any matter of litigation on behalf of the company, it necessarily implied that they had the power to raise funds on the property to liquidate debts. The article was for the indemnification of the directors so that they might be protected.

His Honour: But in the litigation they tried to get costs against the directors personally.

Mr. Pollock: I thought your Lordship made the order against them personally.

His Honour: No, I did not make that order.

Mr. Pollock: Well, that is of no matter now.

Mr. Slade: The application was based on the argument that the action of the directors having been *ultra vires* they ought to be made to pay the costs personally. I merely mention it for what it is worth.

Mr. Pollock: Well, of course, that is of no moment now. It is evident that the directors were intended to be indemnified in what they did in good faith on behalf of the Club. The next point that Mr. Pollock submitted to his Lordship was to get out of the difficulty of the liquor licence. He thought there was a very simple way out of that difficulty. There could be as at home a trust fund for the bar with a manager to administer that fund. He then proceeded to quote authorities in support of the contention. This was a simple arrangement.

His Lordship: That was one of the things I suggested in the postponement that the difficulty might be arranged that way.

Mr. Pollock then resumed the argument on the lines of the right and authority of the Club to sell intoxicating liquors for consumption both on and off the premises, and after quoting authorities at considerable length, learned Counsel held that the Club had those rights.

He then touched upon the point whether it was "just and equitable" that the Company should be wound up. It had been decided that when the substratum of a business or company was gone all they had to do was to wind up. Probably also in the case when it became impossible to carry on the business of the Company, Counsel held that there was nothing to show how the substratum had gone in the case of the Club. There was absolutely no proof that a winding up was desirable in order to suggest a scheme of arrangement. Even if there were any evidence in support of such winding up there was nothing in support of that in the petition. A winding-up order was to be refused if there was no sufficient evidence to support a winding-up.

His Lordship: Supposing that the internal dissensions were more acute than they are, I don't know that it is not "just and equitable" to wind up.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: There is nothing too acute so long as the members act in the best interests of the Club.

His Lordship: One of the original objects of the Club was the provision of social enjoyment. When it has ceased to afford social enjoyment the object of the Club has ceased to exist.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: I will point out that only ten shareholders ceased to derive that social enjoyment. As a matter of fact, the Club is fulfilling its objects as stated by Mr. Pereira in his affidavit, which says: "I verily believe from inquiries made by me among the general body of the members of the Portuguese community in this Colony, that a large majority of such community desire that the said Club should continue, inasmuch as the said Club performs important social functions in this Colony, such as giving balls and concerts and theatrical entertainments to the Portuguese community of this Colony and Macao, and is also affiliated with the 'Gremio Militar' (i.e., the Portuguese Army and Navy Club) in Macao."

His Lordship: That is a matter of evidence.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: Mr. Leiria naturally espouses the cause of his uncle. Mr. Leiria's second affidavit is important. He said that since 1902 there has been trouble. An event of 1902 is rather old and has now been brought up for your Lordship's decision. They have very little—very scanty—*locus standi* in the Club. As regards the petition for winding up, he continued, it was not competent for his learned friend to come to the Court and, addressing his Lordship as a jurymen, say that there were so many disputes that the Club ought to be wound up, and then ask for an order of the Court to permit it. The petitioners have not made any case. They cannot bring forward any authority in support of their application. Why should ten members out of 147—I take the figures of the other side—come forward and wish the Club wound up? There had been some falling off in the number of members recently, but, argued Mr. Pollock, this might be due to the recent trouble. For three years previously the numbers remained practically stationary in spite of the raising of the entrance fees and subscriptions. To allow ten members to enforce their views upon the majority would be unreasonable. He alluded to the fact that, since the unfortunate typhoon of 18th September, a concert had been given at the Club in aid of the Typhoon Relief Fund and realized several hundred dollars. The concert served a very useful purpose and went to show that there was considerable activity in the Club.

Mr. Slade here said he wished to refer to the latest fact introduced by his learned friend and remarked that, as regards the concert given for the Typhoon Relief Fund, as showing Mr. Romano had no feelings against the Club, he contributed \$100 to the Fund, and induced others to contribute amongst those who were non-members as well as members. That showed that there was no hostility on the part of Mr. Romano. Practically all members of the Portuguese community contributed to the Fund.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: That is another reason why a bridge might be constructed, and is another reason also against winding up.

Continuing his argument, Mr. Pollock said that all the authorities quoted held that a com-

pany could come forward and demand the winding up of a company, if he could not otherwise get his claim paid, but where the company was found to be in a position to pay its debts, it could not be considered insolvent and the Court had no power to make an order for its winding up. As regards the shareholders, they passed a resolution that \$2,500 should be raised to pay off the costs of the recent litigation. The petitioners tried to be putting the Court in a position in which it ought not to be put, as it was not for the Court to pronounce whether the concern was a profitable or unprofitable speculation, on such premises as had been put before the Court; and certainly the petitioners had not proved that with reasonable care and good management the financial condition of the Club should not be most satisfactory.

His Honour, Sir Henry asked me yesterday to believe that the bar would pay tenfold, when it had a licence.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: Yes, my Lord, and with ordinary care the Club can easily show the same good results as in 1903 and 1904. The petitioners have shown nothing against this. They themselves are raising all the fuss and trouble, and simply because they have done so, and there are dissensions in the Club is no reason why they should come here and ask that the Club be wound up. It is unreasonable, as they cannot ask the Court to wind up a concern without good and sufficient reasons. None have been shown here, and it is unfortunate that Mr. Romano's so-called expulsion should have been raked up, when it is a matter of ancient history, and for all these reasons I would ask that the petition be dismissed with costs.

Hon. Mr. Pollock concluded his able address, which was of one hour and three-quarters' duration at 12.45 p.m.

His Lordship then forthwith delivered his judgment.

THE JUDGMENT.

His Honour said that this matter was a petition filed by certain shareholders for an order to enable them to wind up the Club, Lusitano, Ltd. The objects for which the Club had been instituted were set forth in the Memorandum of Association, and were for the social enjoyment, recreation, and entertainment of the members of the Portuguese community in this Colony. Allegations have been made that there are disputes between the different bodies of members, and I know there are. It is also said that the profits of the Club have diminished, partly owing to those disputes, and, unfortunately, when the dissensions arose it was discovered that the liquor licence law had been infringed. I think if all these matters in difference continue to exist, there is no doubt that in time the Club will come to an end. There has been a change amongst the members. I will not refer here to the dispute about Mr. Romano or what has been said of his relation to the Club. The arrangement suggested by Mr. Pollock for the settlement of the debt referred to is very reasonable. I don't want to express any legal opinion; however, on the matter, as that is for the legal advisers of the directors to do. Mr. Pollock suggested a very ingenious manner in which to get over the liquor difficulty. I think the petition has a substratum of fact. As I suggested at first there should be an adjournment, when some of these difficulties and differences may be got over. There should be, say, two months allowed in which to see whether the bar is paying or not, and whether it will be necessary to call for a strict examination of the books. I hope it will not be necessary to call for a strict examination of the books. I think it will be necessary to call for the books. The further hearing of the petition is adjourned for four months. I can only say that I hope all these disputes and differences may be settled, as such a settlement cannot but be to the advantage and benefit of the Portuguese community.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 3rd January.

Two boycott meetings were arranged to take place on the 2nd and 5th instant, respectively, but on the afternoon of the 1st instant H. E. the Viceroy sent a deputy to the Canton Boycott Association, with orders to prohibit these meetings, and on the same date the Association received despatches from the Kwongchow Prefect and the Magistrates of Nambol and Pun Yu to the same effect. Nevertheless, the first of these meetings was held on the appointed day and there were present over four hundred persons, less than a half of those attending the meeting of the 29th ult. The Viceroy, in his proclamation stated that the Chinese Exclusion Act has been satisfactorily modified already, so the Association conjectured that the despatch received from the Chinese in Oakland might be misleading. The Association passed a resolution proposing to send a petition to the Viceroy, requesting H. E. to point out to the public the modifications of this Exclusion Act, if he is aware of any. At the meeting an important discussion was raised and no important resolutions passed except the proposal to cable to the Chinese Boycott Association in Oakland, asking for more substantial information regarding the present state of affairs in connection with Chinese exclusion and to petition the Viceroy as above.

A letter has been received by the authorities from Shanghai stating that H. E. Viceroy Shun, the Viceroy designate of Yunnan and Kwichow Provinces, is still in Shanghai. He tendered his resignation to the Throne, but the Throne refused to accept his resignation and ordered him to proceed to his new post as soon as possible. It is expected that he will leave Shanghai for Yunnan in the early part of the next second moon.

To-morrow, the school sports in connection with the school and colleges of Canton will take place in the Eastern Parade Ground. The chief items of sport consist of foot races and other such like feats. The students of the Government established schools refused to compete this year, on account of the fact that they were treated unfairly in the sports held last year.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILED DUE.

American (Siberia) 7th inst.

French (Océania) 7th inst.

Australian (Tatjana) 14th inst.

German (Mantia) 15th or 16th inst.

The Mogul Line's *Madell* sailed from Singapore on 3rd inst., and may be expected here on 10th inst.

The N. Y. K. *Sato Maru*, European Line left Singapore for this port on 4th inst., and is expected here on 10th inst.

The N. Y. K. *Hikari Maru*, European Line left Shanghai for this port on 4th inst., and is expected here on 7th inst.

THE AWAKARD.

Through the courtesy of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha we are informed that a telegram had been received from London in connection with the mishap to the company's steamer *Yamato Maru*, on Redcar. The telegram states that the steamer *Yamato Maru* has been chartered to take the place of the disabled vessel and is expected to leave London for Hong Kong on or about the 16th January.

COMMERCIAL.

TO-DAY'S INTELLIGENCE.

Buyers—National Banks, 2 1/2; Hongkong, 2 1/2; China, 2 1/2; C. & M. Steamboats, 2 1/2; China and Manila, 2 1/2; Hongkong, 2 1/2; Kowloon, 2 1/2; Wharves, 2 1/2; Hongkong, 2 1/2; Cements, 2 1/2; Electric, 2 1/2; Joss, 2 1/2.

Sellers—Canton Insurance, 2 1/2; Douglases, 2 1/2; Shell Transports, 2 1/2; Shanghai, 2 1/2; Docks, 2 1/2; West Points, 2 1/2; Hongkong, 2 1/2; China, 2 1/2; Horne, 2 1/2; China, 2 1/2; Vendors, 2 1/2; Kops, 2 1/2; Powell, 2 1/2; Sales—Hongkong, 2 1/2; Banks, 2 1/2; China, 2 1/2; Sugar, 2 1/2; Raubs, 2 1/2; Hongkong, 2 1/2; Docks, 2 1/2; Nominal—Hongkong, 2 1/2; London, 2 1/2; Union Insurance, 2 1/2; Indo-China, 2 1/2; Shanghai, 2 1/2; Wharves, 2 1/2; Hotels, 2 1/2; Dairy, 2 1/2; Farms, 2 1/2; Tramways, 2 1/2; China Light and Power, 2 1/2; A. S. Watsons, 2 1/2.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

Do. demand, 2 1/2 5/16

Do. 4 months' sight, 2 1/2 5/16

France—Bank T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

America—Bank T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

Germany—Bank T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

India T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

Do. demand, 2 1/2 5/16

Shanghai—Bank T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

Singapore T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

Japan—Bank T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

Java—Bank T.T., 2 1/2 5/16

Buying.

4 months' sight L/C, 2 1/2 5/16

6 months' sight L/C, 2 1/2 5/16

30 days' sight San Francisco & New York, 2 1/2 5/16

4 months' sight do, 2 1/2 5/16

30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne, 2 1/2 5/16

4 months' sight France, 2 1/2 5/16

6 months' sight do, 2 1/2 5/16

4 months' sight Germany, 2 1/2 5/16

Bar Silver, 2 1/2 5/16

Bank of England rate, 2 1/2 5/16

Sovereign, 2 1/2 5/16

REV. C. H. HICKLING has just issued, in pamphlet form, the text of a series of sermons which he devoted in the autumn of last year to a criticism of what is known as Christian Science. There are ten chapters and the author freely acknowledges his indebtedness to others who have traversed the same path.

Today's Advertisements.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES WADDINGTON, LATE OF VICTORIA, HONGKONG, TRAVELLER, Deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Court has, by virtue of Section 58 of the Probates Ordinance 1897, made an Order limiting to the 31st day of January, 1907, for sending in Claims against the above Estate.

All Creditors are hereby required to send their Claims to the Undersigned before the said date.

Dated this 2nd day of January, 1907.

ARATHOON SETH, Official Administrator.

WANTED.

A TEMPORARY CLERK, Non-Chinese, Good at Figures.

Apply—SECRETARY, DAIRY FARM CO., LTD., Hongkong, 5th January, 1907. (5)

FOUND.

A LADY'S Silver-mounted White Feather Fan and White Fur BOA were found in the Cloak Room after the Scottish Masonic Association dance. Owner may have same on application to the Secretary.

J. J. BLAKE, Headquarter Office, Hongkong, 5th January, 1907. (15)

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, (Calling at Timor, Port Darwin and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"EMPIRE,"

Captain Helms, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SATURDAY, the 26th instant, at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber, which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, etc., throughout the voyage.

The Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents, Hongkong, 5th January, 1907. (15)

STEAM TO CANTON.

The New Twin Screw Steel Steamer

"KWONG TUNG," 1,138, H. W. WALKER, Leaves Hongkong for Canton on each Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, at 9 every evening.

Leaves Canton for Hongkong on each Monday, Wednesday and Friday, about 5.30 o'clock every evening.

This Fine New Steamer has unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and is lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabin.

Passage Fare—Single Journey, \$5 (Servant Meals, etc., extra).

The Company's Wharf is situated in front of the New Western Market, opposite the old Harbour Office.

YUEN ON & CO., LD., 110, 112, 114, Queen's Road West, Hongkong, 5th January, 1907. (15)

Advertisements.

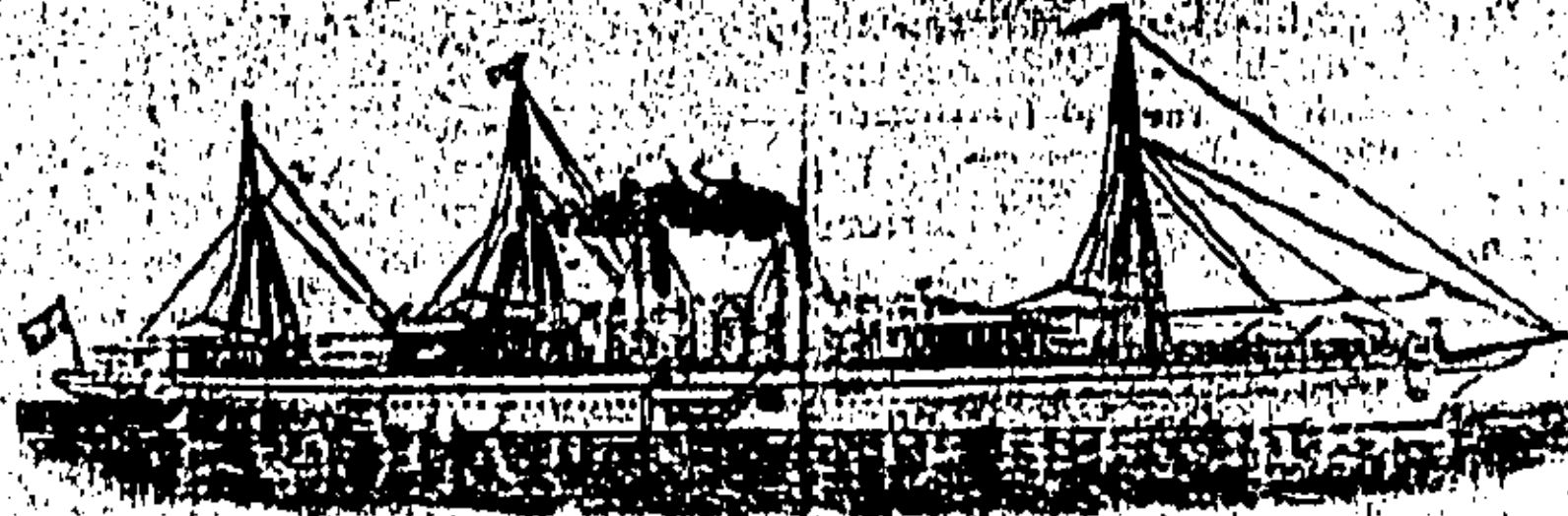
THE ROBINSON PIANO CO., LD.

TALKING MACHINES AND RECORDS.

New Stock just arrived

LARGE AND VARIED

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY'S
ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under Eleven Days across the Pacific in the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days Ocean Travel.

11 Days YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER. 18 Days HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS.	(Subject to Alteration.)
R.M.S. Tons	LEAVE HONGKONG ARRIVE VANCOUVER
"TARTAR" 4,425	WEDNESDAY, January 9th.....February 2nd
"EMPRESS OF CHINA" 6,000	THURSDAY, January 17th.....February 4th
"MONTEAGLE" 6,163	WEDNESDAY, January 23rd.....February 16th
"EMPRESS OF INDIA" 6,000	THURSDAY, February 14th.....March 4th
"ATHENIAN" 3,882	WEDNESDAY, February 20th.....March 16th
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN" 6,000	THURSDAY, March 14th.....April 1st

"EMPRESS" steamers will depart from Hongkong at 4 P.M.

Intermediate steamers at 12 Noon.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and VICTORIA, B.C., connecting at VANCOUVER with a Special Mail Express, and Quebec with the Company's New Palatial "EMPRESS" Steamships, 14,500 tons register. The through transit to LIVERPOOL being 22 1/2 days from YOKOHAMA, and 29 1/2 days from HONGKONG.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class.....£12 10s. 6d. 2nd Class.....£10 10s. 6d. 3rd Class.....£8 10s. 6d. Steamers, and 1st Class on Railways.....£40.....£42. R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE," "TARTAR" and "ATHENIAN" carry "Intermediate" Passengers only, at intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class. Passengers Booked through to all points and AROUND THE WORLD. SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments. For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. W. CRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China, Corner Paddar Street and Praya, Hongkong, 1st January, 1907.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI VIA SWATOW.....	HOPSANG	SUNDAY, 6th Jan., Daylight
SHANGHAI.....	KWONGSANG	WEDNESDAY, 9th Jan., Daylight
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA.....	FOOKSANG	THURSDAY, 10th Jan., 3 P.M.
MANILA.....	LOONGSANG	FRIDAY, 11th Jan., 4 P.M.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA.....	KUTSANG	SATURDAY, 12th Jan., 3 P.M.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Chetoo, Tientsin, (via Ching Wan Tao) and Yangtze Ports.

* These Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1907.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOK TOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE.	"CHANGSHA" * * *	7th January, 4 p.m.
MANILA.....	"TEAN" * * *	8th " "
AMOI, NINGPO and SHANGHAI.....	"TIENTSIN" * * *	9th " "
AMOI, CEBU and ILOILO.....	"SUNGKIANG" * * *	12th " Noon
YOKOHAMA and KOBE.....	"TAIYUAN" * * *	19th " 4 p.m.

* The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A daily qualified Surgeon is carried.

Taking Cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian Ports.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1907.



HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA
STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
RUBI.....	2540	R. Almond.....	MANILA (DIRECT)	SATURDAY, 12th Jan., at Noon.
ZAFIRO.....	2540	R. Rodger.....	"	SATURDAY, 19th Jan., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1907.



HONGKONG-NEW YORK.

AMERICAN ASIATIC
STEAMSHIP CO.

FOR NEW YORK via PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

Steamship About

For Freight and further information, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 22nd November, 1906.

Shipping—Steamers.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

PASSENGER SERVICE.

BY the new steamers "RHEINHAUF," "HAMBURG," and "HOHENSTAUFEN." These steamers offer to the public the highest comfort yet attained in ocean travelling. They are especially built for the tropics with very large well ventilated cabins, amply lighted throughout by electricity, fans provided in each cabin. The berths are not arranged one above the other as it has been the fashion hitherto, but the staterooms closely resemble ordinary sleeping rooms on shore, the berths standing like beds at either side of the cabin. As a novelty, a number of cabins are provided for single passengers. These steamers call at NAPLES and PLYMOUTH. In addition to the above steamers, the s.s. "SILESIA" and "SCANDIA" carry first class passengers. Return Tickets issued at reduced rates, through tickets issued to NEW YORK via NAPLES, SOUTHAMPTON and HAMBURG.

NEXT SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Outward.	Homeward.
FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.	FOR THE STRAITS, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, PLYMOUTH, HAVRE AND HAMBURG.
SILESIA..... 6th January.	HOHENSTAUFEN..... 11th January.
SCANDIA..... 1st February.	AMBRIA..... 15th January.
HAMBURG..... 3rd March.	SPESIA..... 25th January.
RHEINHAUF..... 1st April.	SILESIA..... 8th February.
Hongkong, 5th January, 1907.	NUBIA..... 29th January.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSEAGERIES
MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOTS-POSTES FRANCAIS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"OCEANIAN" Captain Magnien, will be despatched as above, on or about MONDAY, the 7th instant. For Freight or Passage, apply to G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent. Hongkong, 2nd January, 1907.

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA,
(Florio and Rubattino United Companies.)

STEAM FOR BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.

Having connection with Company's Mail Steamers to ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MESSINA, NAPLES, LEGHORN and GENOA, also VENICE and TRIESTE, all MEDITERRANEAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANTINE and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS up to CALAO. (Taking Cargo at through Rates to PERSIAN GULF and BAGDAD, also BARCELONA, VALENZA, ALICANTE, ALMERIA and MALAGA.)

THE Steamship

"ISCHIA" Captain Doderio, will be despatched as above, on FRIDAY, the 11th January, at Noon. At BOMBAY, the Steamer is discharging in Victoria Dock. For further Particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply to CARLOWITZ & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 31st December, 1906.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

Regular Steamship Service between HONGKONG, CALLAO and IQUIQUE, via JAPAN PORTS (KARATSU, KOBE and YOKOHAMA).

THE Steamship

"KASATO MARU," 6,000 tons, Captain W. C. T. S. Filmer, will be despatched as above, in April, 1907. Taking Freight and Passengers to other Western Coast Ports of South America. The above Steamer has splendid Accommodation and is fitted throughout with Electric Light. A daily qualified Surgeon is carried. For further information, apply to K. MATSUDA, Manager, Yokohama, Hongkong, 27th December, 1906.

For Sale.

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY. This is the age of scientific experiment, when all nature, so to speak, is ransacked by the scientist for the comfort and happiness of man. Science has indeed made giant strides during the past century, and among them—by no means least important—discovery in medicine comes that of

THERAPION.

This preparation is unquestionably one of the most genuine and reliable Patent Medicines ever introduced, and has, we understand, been used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Kossin, Jobert, Velpeau, Meisner, and the well-known Classical, and indeed by all who are regarded as authorities in such matters. It is the famous Pills of Lallemand, and those, by whom it was some time since uniformly adopted, and that it is worthy the attention of those who require such aid, or one that there is no doubt, from the time of Aristotle downwards, a potent agent in the removal of these diseases (as it is the fact, pillage, and the cause of them, and beyond the mere power of it such could ever have been discovered, and the base metals into gold is surely the discovery of a remedy so potent as this, and the fact of a remedy of the confirmed now in the case, and in the other so effectively, speedily and safely to expel from the system with the aid, or one of the knowledge, of a second party, the poison of acquired or inherited disease in all their present forms as to leave no taint or trace behind. Such is

THERAPION.

which can certainly rank with, if not take precedence of, many of the discoveries of the day, and which so little ostentation and make have been made, and the extensive and ever-increasing demand thereon has created for this medicine, and one introduced appears to prove that it is destined to outlast all other remedies. It is a medical man. Therapion may be obtained of the world-famous Dispensary, London, or of the world-famous Dispensary, London.

Sold by all Chemists.

Intimation.

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.

1, ICE HOUSE ROAD,

HONGKONG.

CABLE ADDRESS:—Telegraph, Hongkong.

THE leading English Newspaper in China

Also widely circulated in Japan, Ceylon, China, Ceylon, India and the Far East generally.

A daily newspaper with weekly edition

published for despatch by the homeward mail

The daily is recommended as more generally

suitable, except for subscribers in Europe or

America.

A special feature is made of full and accurate

reports of local occurrences, and of matters of general interest.

Consignees.

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "BENARTY," FROM LEITH, LONDON AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods undelivered after the 10th instant will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 18th instant, or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 10th instant, at 11 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1907.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"KUTSANG" having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 P.M. the 5th instant will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1907.

Intimations.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBTS.

NEITHER the CAPTAIN, the AGENTS, nor the OWNERS will be RESPONSIBLE for any DEBTS contracted by the Officers or the Crew of the following vessel during her stay in Hongkong Harbour:—E. B. SUTTON, American ship, Captain Buttman. Arnold, Karberg & Co. [F]

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORESS of the ITALIAN CONVENT, CANE ROAD, begs most respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports, for their kind patronage and support, and desires to state that she will be pleased to receive orders for all kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gentlemen's Shirts made to order, and Cuffs and Collars renewed on old ones.

Ladies and Children's Under-clothing, Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery, Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superioress will also be most grateful for any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES to be made into Books for the Children of the Poor Schools who are taught by the Sisters.

Hongkong, 22nd April, 1892.

Ships Passed The Canal.

4th December—Oafoa, Oafoa, Habiburg, Mamon, Nile, Princess Alice. 8th December—Alcinous, Australia, Dardanis, Silesia, (Ger.) Java. 11th December—Binkarig, Mudd, Glamorganshire, Koranna. 14th December—Hudson, Oceanic, Skimasa, Roba, Sado Maru, Sanuki Maru. 18th December—Pavla, Agammon, Glenurral, Kennebec, Saxonia. 21st December—Ceylon, Dindighah, Deucalion, Telemachus, Tonkin, Nyansa, Benvenue, Riverton, Tylan, Brigovia. 28th Dec.—Benvenue, Gaultehau, Ralko, Tamba Maru, Balon, Darla, Yidda. 1st January—Bramar, Diodot, Hellas, Sumatra, Bling Maru, Tourah, Hlanah.

Arrivals at Home—4th December—Danca, Roung St. Swila. 8th December—Meyna, Senagambia, Bengala. 11th December—Princess Alice, Benlawer. 14th December—Indramaya. 18th December—Fleishberg, Auk Maru, Calches. 21st December—Dardanis, Brill, Longtor, Boon, Nile. 28th December—Tamba. 1st January—Pavla, Hlanah.

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS.

THE ROMANCE OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

One somewhat naturally associates the Christmas cracker with the good old times when sentiment was a recognised attribute of human nature.

Nowadays, when the hurry-scurry and bustle of business, the cult of the prosaic and the matter-of-fact, have killed many another fine old custom, it is refreshing to find that the cracker is still with us.

Not only has it kept pace with the times, it is even ahead of them. To this fact it undoubtedly owes its increasing popularity, and its avoidance of the fate of many another famous institution—relegated to the shades of oblivion.

The cracker started life in the guise of a slip of fancy paper, containing a sweet and a love motto, called a "kiss motto." The kiss motto flourished in what we are wont to dolefully describe as the good old days, yet its popularity was as nothing compared with the ever-increasing vogue of the up-to-date cracker.

It is not often that a fancy trade of this description flourishes in this country. Where ideas, artistic treatment, and delicacy of suggestion are required, the phlegmatic British temperament seems to be out of it, and the foreigner rules the roost. However, the cracker trade is largely a British monopoly, which satisfactory condition of affairs is principally due to the enterprise and inventive genius of the firm of Messrs. Tom Smith & Co. They practically supply the world with its Christmas crackers, and their output has increased year by year till it has reached the colossal annual total of 13,000,000.

This in itself is an amazing fact. Thirteen million crackers placed end to end would reach from London to New York. Packed tightly into one pile they would form a solid vertical column considerably larger and wider than Nelson's monument. For the purposes of illustration we have taken the liberty of erecting a gigantic cracker in Trafalgar Square, London, in the place of the historic column. It is composed of the crackers used in the British Isles annually, and gives a capital idea of what Britishers spend in this way; yet there are pessimists who tell us that the Christmas cracker is a thing of the past.

Mr. Walter Smith, who may be described as the Napoleon of the trade, was good enough to show the writer over the works devoted to the industry. They reminded him more of a newspaper office than anything else. As a matter of fact the work of both offices is largely analogous. Both require an extensive printing plant, lithographic and engraving departments, and editorial and artistic staffs.

The Editor-in-chief is Mr. Walter Smith. From his fertile brain emanate the thousand and one ideas that make the firm's crackers popular throughout the world, and to him every literary and artistic suggestion must be submitted ere it is finally adopted. Many months of hard work and study are often expended on a single idea before it assumes a tangible commercial form. Nor is this to be wondered at when the enormous amount of detail work is taken into consideration.

Each of the crackers requires the most careful study in order to ensure accuracy. The legal crackers contain, in addition to paper wigs, various legal documents. There is a comic bill of costs, a lovers' agreement, and so forth. Each is beautifully engrossed, and the whole is an absolutely correct model of legal phraseology. Mr. Smith informed the writer that many weeks of hard work had been expended on the composition of the documents, and this could be readily understood.

Many of the verses are written by casual contributors, and our readers who have a hand for versifying might do much worse than submit their literary efforts to the great cracker firm. Anyway, if accepted, there is something more substantial in prospect than the barren honour of a public appearance in print; a reward too often considered sufficient for the minor poet.

Once the idea and its artistic and literary details are decided upon, a dummy cracker is prepared, and on being finally approved the actual manufacture begins.

As may be supposed, the production of 13,000,000 of these gaily decorated rolls engages the services of an immense staff. Considerably over 1,000 people are employed all the year round in their manufacture, and the consumption of raw material is enormous. In the course of the year more than 100 tons of cardboard are used in the making of cracker boxes. These figures are not surprising when it is remembered that in the height of the season as many as 30,000 boxes are often turned out complete.

Another five tons of cardboard go to form the tiny explosive strips known in the trade as detonators. Glue and paste form another heavy item, more than twenty tons being used in cracker-making in the course of the year.

Although Messrs. Smith & Co. are chiefly concerned with the manufacture of the ordinary cracker containing the usual complement of verses, toys, sweetmeats, and caps, they occasionally leave the beaten track, and in the case of special orders produce a variety containing presents of much higher value. Not long since they were asked to manufacture a box containing one cracker in which were a pair of gloves and a motto specially composed for the occasion. Needless to say the order came from a "milkmaid" source, and was really a guess that it was yet another rendering of the old story. How the gentleman ordered affairs so that the particular fair one chose the right cracker from the box must ever remain a mystery.

Generally speaking the larger crackers made are some 12 inches long. They glory in what is the most beautiful design, and are sold singly, in specially made boxes. However, on occasion the firm have produced much larger specimens. They have even made one over three feet in length, containing a full-sized

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

The Hongkong Telegraph is the best

medium for advertising in China. It circulates

largely among all classes of the community,

is the largest daily newspaper and has a

wider circulation than any journal in the Far

East.

Special attention given to effectively display-

ing advertisements.

The type used as a standard for setting

advertisements is similar to this, unless we are

instructed to display the advertisement, when

any effective style of type will be adopted.

This standard runs exactly eight lines to the

inch, and about eight words to the line.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Notices of Births, Deaths, and Marriages

at each insertion in the Daily and Weekly.

CONTRACT ADVERTISEMENTS.

Special Rates for standing advertisements

can be ascertained from the Manager.

Advertisements for the Daily should reach

the Hongkong Telegraph Office not later than

noon of the day they are intended to appear.

Unless otherwise specified all advertisements

will be repeated and charged for until counter-

manded.

JOBING DEPARTMENT.

Job Printing of all descriptions undertaken.

PROGRAMMES.

PAMPHLETS.

CARDS.

CIRCULARS.

EXPRESSES.

All job printing is done under European

supervision, well turned out, free from errors,

and remarkably cheap at

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.

OFFICE.

Estimates given for all classes of work on

application to

THE MANAGER,

HONGKONG TELEGRAPH CO., LD.

1, ICE HOUSE ROAD,

HONGKONG.

Intimations

XMAS! 1906! XMAS!

SWEETS, FONDANTS, MARRONS GLACES.
FRENCH, ENGLISH AND SWISS
AND BON-BONS.

Liqueurs of the most renowned French Brands.

CHAMPAGNES, BURGUNDIES AND
CLARETS
OF THE CHOICEST VINTAGES.

Before making your purchases you should inspect
our stock.

A. CHAZALON & CO.,

69, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Hongkong, 20th December, 1906.

[1221]

NOTE, WRITING AND BOOK
PAPERS,

BY THE OUIRE OR REAM.

The Celebrated Wiggins Teape & Co.'s "3009"
Bank Wove (Blue and Cream).

T. H. Saunders's Handmade Papers.

Note and Letter Papers, with Envelopes to
match, in boxes.

For samples and prices,

Apply at—

THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" OFFICE,

1, Ice House Road.

Hongkong, 7th December, 1906.

[B]

CUTLER, PALMER & CO.
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

LONDON, INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.
ESTABLISHED 1815.

	One Case.	One Case.
	Qts.	Pts.
COGNAC	\$21.50	—
"	19.00	—
"	16.00	—
WHISKY, FINE MALL	19.00	—
" JOHN WALKER	12.00	—
" C. P. & CO'S SPECIAL BLEND	10.00	—
PORT WINE, INVALIDS	19.00	—
" DOURO	13.00	—
SHERRY, AMOROSO	19.00	—
" LA TORRE	15.55	—
BENEDICTINE, D.O.M.	38.50	40.50

THE ABOVE EXCLUSIVELY SHIPPED TO

SIEMSEN & CO.,

HONGKONG AGENTS.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1906.

[36]

ACHEE & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

FURNITURE,

DEPOT

GENERAL HOUSEHOLD

REQUISITES.

&C. &C. &C.

EASTMAN'S

KODAKS, FILMS,

AND
ACCESSORIES.

Telephone 256.

AMATEUR WORK RECEIVES PROMPT AND CAREFUL ATTENTION.
Hongkong, 16th May 1907.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. S. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon, later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS	NO. OF SHARES	VALUE	PAID UP	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT	AT WORKING ACCOUNT	LAST DIVIDEND	APPROXIMATE RETURN LAST YEAR	CLOSING QUOTATIONS
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	10,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,000,000	\$1,247,272	{1.15% @ Ex. 2/11 = \$16.47 for first half- year 1906	11 1/2 %	\$85 sellers London 100
National Bank of China, Limited	10,000	\$7	\$7	\$1,000,000	\$74,000	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1905	11 1/2 %	140
MARINE INSURANCE.								
Union Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$253,000	\$20 for 1905	11 1/2 %	120 1/2
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	\$15	\$5	\$1,000,000	\$185,500	{Final of 7/6 making 15% for year ended 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 sellers
Yankee Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,022,271	Interim div. of 7/6 for 1905	11 1/2 %	140
Yankee Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$508,334	\$12 and \$3 special dividend for 1904	11 1/2 %	110 1/2
FIRE INSURANCE.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$344,000	\$6 for 1904	11 1/2 %	\$95 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$222,800	\$25 for 1904	11 1/2 %	135 1/2
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	10,000	\$25	\$25	\$1,000,000	\$6,563	\$12 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,000,000	Nil	\$24 for year ended 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	\$57
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$15	\$15	\$1,000,000	\$5,404	\$1 for 1st half-year 1906	7 1/2 %	\$20
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,452	10% @ ex. 2/11 = \$16.47	5 1/2 %	\$85 sellers
Hongkong Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,315	{Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906 {Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 sellers
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	1/2 (Coupon No. 6) for 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Star Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	{1.50% for year ending 31.12.1906 {1.50% for year ending 31.12.1905	11 1/2 %	\$28 buyers
Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	T. 30
PEVINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Final of \$15 making 15% for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$115
Yankee Sugar Refining Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$1 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$21
Yankee Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	{1.50% for year ending 31.12.1906 {1.50% for year ending 31.12.1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Final of 1/11 (No. 7) making 1% for year ended 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Consolidated Mining Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim of 50 cents for account 1906	11 1/2 %	C. 50 buyers
Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	No. 12 of 1/11 = 48 cents	11 1/2 %	\$91 buyers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	\$1,000,000	\$38,915	\$2 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$21
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$20,040	\$24 for a/c 1906	11 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Long and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$39,087	\$6 for first half-year ending 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	\$145
Amoy Dock Company, Limited	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$39,087	\$1 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$145
Hongkong Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$39,087	Final of 2/11 making 2% for 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Hongkong and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$39,087	Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Yankee Wharf and Godown Company, Limited	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$39,087	The 18 for 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	First year	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Hotel House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$3 for year ended 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	{2.40 on 1/11 for 1905 {2.40 on 1/11 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Do. (new issue)	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	None	11 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Do. (Founders)	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$5 for first half-year for 1906	11 1/2 %	\$115
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Final of 6% = 10% for 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Hotel des Colonies Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Final of \$6 making 10%	11 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Hotel Metropole Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	80 cents for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$21 buyers
Empire Estate & Finance Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$24 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$21
Yankee Land and Building Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$24 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$21
Hongkong Land Investment Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	The 3 for half-year 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Do. (new issue)	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
West Point Building Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
COTTON MILLS.								
Two Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	The 10 for year ended 31.12.1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$12 for the year ending 31.12.1906	11 1/2 %	\$15
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	The 6 for year ended 30.9.1906 (8%)	11 1/2 %	The 30
Laon-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	The 8 for 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	The 25 for 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 sellers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Anglo-German Brewery Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$7 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$100 sellers
Pell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	1/3 per share for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$7 sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$3 for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$30
China-Borneo Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$1 for 1904	11 1/2 %	\$10
China Flour Mill Co., Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Final of 2/11 making 2% for 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 sellers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	60 cents for year ended 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	\$60
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	80 cents for 1905	11 1/2 %	\$80
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$1.30 for year ending 31.12.1906	11 1/2 %	\$130
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Int. div. of 75 cents for 1-year ended 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	\$75
Hall & Holtz, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$24 for year ending 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	\$24
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	{10% for 10 months ending 30.6.1906 {10% for 10 months ending 30.6.1905	11 1/2 %	\$100
Hongkong High-Waterways Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Int. div. of \$2 for 10 months ending 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	\$20
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Int. div. of \$2 for 1-year ended 30.6.1906	11 1/2 %	\$20 buyers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$5 for 1905 on 5 shares	11 1/2 %	\$5
Hongkong Steam Waterboat Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Final of 50 cents making 5% for the year	11 1/2 %	\$50
Maatschappij tot Mijn. Bosch- en Landbouw- exploitatie in Langkat, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	{4th interim div. of 2/11 making 2% for {so far a/c 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Philippine Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	None	11 1/2 %	\$100
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited (old)	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim dividend of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 sellers
Do. (new)	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	The 6 for 1904	11 1/2 %	The 30 sellers
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Hongkong Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Hongkong-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 2/11 = 2% for 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 1/11 for 1-year 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
South China Morning Post, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim div. of 1/11 for 1-year 1906	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	30cts (old) & 15cts (new) for ended 31.12.1906	11 1/2 %	\$45
Yankee Waterworks Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim of 2/11 = 2% for year 1905	11 1/2 %	The 30 buyers
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	{70 cents for year ended 31.12.1906 {80.92	11 1/2 %	\$70
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Interim of 45 cents for account 1906	11 1/2 %	\$45
William Powell, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	{Final of 30 cents making 30% for the {year ended 30th June, 1906	11 1/2 %	\$30

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

(ESTABLISHED 1861)

NEW SERIES No 5852

號一廿月一十年二十三精光

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1907.

六拜禮

NOTICE.
All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.
Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any return of MSS., nor to return any Contribution.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE).
DAILY—\$50 per annum.
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The rate per quarter and per month, proportional.
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Single Copies. Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

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BIRTHS.

TANAKA.—On 30th December, at 19, Macdonnell Road, the wife of Mr. T. TANAKA, the Japanese Consul, of a son.

On 24th December, at Anping, South Formosa, the wife of H. W. ARTHUR, of a daughter (Annie Gordon Noel).

On December 25, at Shanghai, the wife of REGINALD N. TRUMAN, of a son.

On December 26, at Shanghai, the wife of ROBERT MCGREGOR, of a son.

On Christmas Day, at Shanghai, the wife of ARTHUR STANLEY, of a son.

On December 27, at Shanghai, to Ruth, wife of RUFUS STUART ADAMS, a daughter, Margery.

On December 27, at Shanghai, the wife of FELICE PALAZZI, of a daughter.

On the 31st December, 1906, at 3, Pedder's Hill, Hongkong, the wife of J. C. H. L. SMITH, chief engineer, s.s. *Nanning*, of a daughter. Penang papers please copy.

MARRIAGES.

On December 1, at Foonchow, JAMES BLUNDY of the Church Missionary Society, Fookien, to ANNIE HELEN MADELINE TAPSON, of Swanley, Kent, England.

On December 15, at Shanghai, HERBERT MIDDLETON, eldest and only surviving son of the late Edward Middleton of Sheffield and Calcutta, to GEORGINA BEATRICE, youngest daughter of the late Rev. George Fenton Hamilton of Dublin.

On December 15, at Shanghai, HERBERT MIDDLETON, eldest and only surviving son of the late Edward Middleton of Sheffield and Calcutta, to GEORGINA BEATRICE, youngest daughter of the late Rev. George Fenton Hamilton of Dublin.

On December 22, at Shanghai, OLGA DAISS, second daughter of Capt. William Smith, Kluang, to ARNOLD CHARLES SMITHFIELD, I.M. Customs, Hongkong.

On December 27, at Shanghai, WILLIAM DUAY SMITH to ANNETTE SIMS WILSON, youngest daughter of Mr. Richard Patrick Wilson.

On the 1st January, 1907, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Ven. Archdeacon Banister, W. S. BAILEY to MIRIAM L. BANISTER.

DEATH.

On December 29, at Shanghai, MARION FORD, beloved mother of C. F. Greenwood, aged 72 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1907.

DOMESTIC SERVANT QUESTION.

(31st December.)

The servant problem appears to be one of increasing difficulty in this Colony, but more especially in Kowloon, though the reason for the distinction it would appear impossible to unravel. Household holders there bitterly complain that they are almost afraid to reprimand their "boys" for their peccadilloes, while to prosecute them for misdemeanours punishable by law spells "boy-cott," as far as their domestic service is concerned. We are informed by one who has resided for some years in Kowloon, that he had a great deal of trouble with his servants, as, if he had occasion to dismiss a boy, or to prosecute one, for good and sufficient reasons, the other boys in his service immediately left without notice, and he had, practically, to search the highways and byways of the Colony to replace them, for the dismissed servants made it their business to induce all other boys to boycott the house. Thus a boy who seemed suitable, and was engaged for service, after promising to return at a certain hour to commence work, would be subsequently pounced upon by one of the "sacked," and warned, even with threats, not to return to that house again, to the extreme annoyance and inconvenience of the master and mistress. In the case under notice the latter retaliated, and in turn "boy-cotted" all servants in this Colony, Cantonese, Hakkas and the rest, and imported servants from a more distant province, and has, in consequence, never had any trouble with his domestics since. This is one of several cases that have been brought to our notice, and brings us once again to the old subject of the registration of domestic servants. The "Chit" system (by way of "Character") is useless, as has been proved time and again in India, where the "chits" are lent, over and over again, to secure a man service, because he happens to be chitless, and thus a chit once signed and delivered does duty for innumerable domestics, the females, in this respect, being no whit better than the males. Registration is the only remedy for a constantly increasing evil, and registration the Colony ought to have. The pros and cons on the subject of registration have been frequently adduced and ventilated in the columns of the local press, and the unbiased mind cannot but admit that the pros far outweigh the cons. There appears to be a sort of trades union or "boys' guild" operating, but the police are powerless to do anything to break it up, for it has "neither a habitation nor a name," the meetings being held anywhere and everywhere, and it is more than probable that the constant prosecutions of boys out of employment for being found in the servants' quarters of private residences, without the knowledge or consent of the masters or mistresses, are the result of one of these casual meetings of the "guild" or "union."

However that may be, the servants appear, from all accounts, to be going from bad to worse, and there appears to be no conceivable remedy but the one mentioned above—Registration.

PASSING OF 1906.

(31st December.)

With the closing of this month to-night, dies one of the most eventful years this Colony has experienced for several decades, and in these dying hours of 1906, before we attempt to cry "Ave" to his successor one cannot but cast one's thoughts back, and see what the infant year we welcomed twelve short months ago has achieved during that short space of time. Perhaps the first thought that strikes one in thus reviewing the old year is that, as it dies, it leaves true "Peace upon Earth." For all nations are, even if only outwardly, at amity the one with the other, and the coming year will be born without one single rumour of the likelihood of that peace being disturbed. Looking at the year as it concerns our little Colony, we find it opens with His Excellency the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., as is customary at this time of the year, passing around from school to college, distributing prizes hardly-striven for and pleasantly anticipated. His Excellency's personality and urbanity much enhancing the pleasure experienced by the successful pupils and scholars in receiving those prizes and diplomas at His Excellency's hands. This year, however, to the regret of all, His Excellency has been compelled to leave the Colony, wherein his presence is so much missed, in order to recuperate his health, which was much shattered by the unfortunate accident sustained while playing polo in November last. In this connection, however, all communities here have rejoiced at the news received of His Excellency's satisfactory progress towards complete recovery, and probable speedy return to us. The year marked an era among the annals of the Colony, as January saw the first celebration of St. George's Day, by the English members of the community, that has ever been held here, the day being marked by a Ball which was one of the most successful ever witnessed in Hongkong. During this month also the British Squadron in Far Eastern waters left these shores to visit Manila, where they received a right royal welcome, being feted, dined, and otherwise entertained, with all the lavish hospitality for which Uncle Sam is so well-known to their own and their hosts' mutual delight. Later in the year the American squadron visited us in return, and Jack forgot not his welcome in Manila, and all was done that could be done to return and show our appreciation of the hospitality extended to our Tars in Manila, both by Jack aboard and the residents ashore. This month also saw the election of Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., to a seat in the Legislative Council—a most popular appointment, but one also carrying with it, on account of the exigencies of his own business concerns, his regrettable resignation from the Sanitary Board, where he was so much needed. The first big event of the year, so to speak, was the welcome accorded to H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught, who was then en route to Japan to convey the insignia of the Garter to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan, which high Order had been conferred upon him by His Majesty King Edward VII., balls, banquets, *à la carte* and a dinner-party given by the Chinese in the Ko Shing Theatre, together with golfing, boating and other out-door recreations being included in the programme for H. R. H.'s entertainment. About this time came two amusing rumours to the Colony—that Great Britain had been offered the Philippine Islands on purchase, and had refused the offer, and next that Japan was to be the purchaser. Both, needless to say, were mere purchases. The Jockey Club held the usual Race meeting, which was as successful as in past years, and the A.D.C. staged "Princess Toto" during the week. The legal fraternity lost two of its prominent members, in the persons of Mr. V. H. Deacon, of the firm of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, who retired and returned to England, and Mr. E. A. Bonner, of the Crown Solicitor's office, whose death claimed. Towards the end of March Hongkong was enveloped in fog, and so heavy were they as to interfere with the navigation in and out and about the harbour. These were the heaviest fogs experienced in the Colony for many years. There were great times spent when the Japanese and French squadrons visited us, and nothing was left undone to entertain our allies and the foreign naval parties. In April Hongkong shipping in the harbour had a unique experience, when, on a calm and sultry day the waters of the harbour were suddenly upheaved and set the vessels rolling, pitching and tossing. It was a "seaquake," but, fortunately no damage was done. At the end of April Mr. E. A. Hewitt was elected to the Legislative Council, to represent the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce. This month also witnessed the first of the revived meetings of the Horticultural Society, which, unfortunately, did not prove the success that was anticipated for it. The Supreme Court also had its surprise for us, for there was caused a considerable sensation when, at the termination of a case, his Honour the Chief Justice, called up seven witnesses, merchants of good standing, and committed them to gaol for perjury, and an appeal was entered to the Privy Council. The year also witnessed the retirement of both the naval and military Commanders-in-Chief in the persons of Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, and Major-General Villiers Hatton, respectively. The arrests, trial, prosecution on charge of accepting bribes, their discharge and subsequent dismissal of two well-known Sanitary Inspectors was the next sensation which stirred the community. After a fairly quiet interval Hongkong was suddenly, and all unwarned, visited by the most terrible, devastating and life and property-destroying typhoon that has visited the Colony for many a long decade, the tale of loss of life being harrowing in the extreme. But the details of the terrible havoc wrought on that memorable Typhoon Day are all too fresh in all our memories to need any recapitulation here, for all know that amongst the victims were many mercantile marine captains and officers, besides thousands of unfortunate Chinese sampan and junkmen, to a number which will never now be known. Scarcely had the Colony recovered from the terrible shock it had received when it was again shaken to its depths by the awful holocaust on board the s.s. *Ilanko*, with its terrible tale of death by burning. Next the Colony, and we think we may with safety say, the whole Colony, were called upon to mourn the death of the Hon. Captain L. A. W. Barnes-Lawrence, K.N., Harbourmaster and Marine Magistrate, a man beloved by all, and the "sailors' friend" in very truth, their deaths, by murder, suicide and sudden sickness there were, but at this season of "Peace, perfect peace, and goodwill" let us draw a curtain upon the sorrows, and think only of the pleasures, such as they were, of the past year. Both the military and navy have been busy, the former with manoeuvres and sham fights ashore, and the latter with manoeuvres and target-practice afloat. Inofficial circles there have been several changes. The Hon. the Attorney General, Sir Henry Berkeley, who was lately created a K.C. retired for the purpose of entering into private practice, being succeeded by Mr. H. H. Gompertz, Chief Magistrate. Then Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., arrived from Home and relieved Hon. Mr. T. Sercombe Smith as Colonial Secretary. Next His Excellency the Governor left for Java and Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., was sworn in as Officer Administering the Government, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith reverting to the post of Colonial Secretary. Dr. J. M. Atkinson returned from Home, relieving Dr. F. Clark as President of the Sanitary Board, the latter resuming his substantive appointment of Medical Officer of Health. Sport has received a great impetus on account of the influx of much "new blood" together with His Excellency's keen interest in it, in all its branches, and sporting clubs have made great strides in popularity. It remains now only for us to wish our readers a Very Prosperous New Year.

THE SIGNALLING OF TYPHOONS.

(3rd January.)

The general public of Hongkong and the shipping community in particular will be interested to learn that the admirable work which is being done by the Zi-ka-wei Observatory staff in noting the approach of storms, and giving timely warning of the proximity of typhoons to the great fleets of junks and sampans, which trade along the coast of China, is to be further enhanced by an improvement which will certainly appeal to all mariners. So much has been heard recently of the alleged defects of the Hongkong service that many people in the Colony are quite convinced in their own minds that the weather experts of the first water, immediately after the memorable typhoon there was hardly an individual who hesitated to offer a true and cogent opinion as to the real cause of the disaster to the small and large craft in the harbour. As the narrator advanced in his intuitive knowledge of an intricate and most technical subject so did the value of his views and the elaboration of his ideas increase. With that point, however, we are not now dealing, simply recalling it for the purpose of noting that anything affecting the forecasting of the weather is bound to attract the attention of those who have given the matter a deeper study, besides affording subject for discussion of the ordinary man-in-the-street. From a letter which we have received from the Director of the Zi-ka-wei Observatory it appears that "owing to the kind co-operation of the Coast Inspector, a plan has been traced, and has just received the high approval of the Inspector General at Peking, making it possible to repeat, briefly, the typhoon and storm warnings at most of the lighthouses of the I.M. Customs on the Coast." The lighthouses are without the means of telegraphic communication and therefore it was necessary to devise a means whereby passing vessels which had acquired the essential information could report the dread notice to the isolated light-house keepers, who, in turn, would repeat it along the length and breadth of the coast they served. Zi-ka-wei Observatory has proved equal to the task, as might have been presumed, and a simple scheme of telegraphing the warnings from vessels to lighthouses and vice versa has been framed. Of course, while the meteorologists have given their time for the benefit of the public it has been impossible for them to make the scheme effective without the co-operation of masters of sea-going vessels and their help in this most praiseworthy scheme is solicited. It need hardly be said that there will be no reluctance on the part of skippers to assist their friends, the "beacons" of the night, in spreading the news of approaching typhoons far and wide. As most people admit, there is no more generous, unselfish and obliging class in the world than mariners, and in this case they would not merely be conferring a boon on their fellow-workers but would also be helping on the study of weather conditions along the coast. Not only so, but they would be, in the wisest sense, casting bread on the waters from which they might possibly reap their reward by themselves benefiting from the information received through the same instrumentality at a later date. The Storm Signalling Repeating Code, as it is termed, "comes into force as soon as the 1st May" circumstances will permit, according to the Coast Inspector, but the Observatory authorities hope that they will manage to have it circulated within a few weeks. The scheme has been evolved from the original suggestion that every effort should be made to warn junks and sampans of the necessity of seeking shelter from the fury of an approaching gale. Indeed the Director of Zi-ka-wei Observatory distinctly states that it "was originally intended, on a smaller scale, for the most needed assistance of those poor fishermen and other junk people, who are helpless and lose everything, even their lives, yearly, in so great numbers, for want of knowledge, chiefly during the typhoon season. But owing to the great kindness of the authorities of the I.M. Customs, the utility will be extended also to the sea-going vessels, passing e.g. off N. Saddle Turnabout, Lamock, etc." Considering the enormous shipping interests at stake along the China Coast it is imperative that every shipmaster should be provided with a copy of the code and it seems desirable that shipowners and agents in Hongkong and at the coast ports should themselves make application for the document—in case some skipper fails to learn of this development in meteorological work—and provide the errand ones with what must prove one of the keys to nautical safety. It is not for the layman to deal with matters which as a landsman must necessarily be largely at sea—to use a Hibernianism—but it seems to us that the adoption of the new Code and its practical operation should become the means of saving many lives which would otherwise have been lost and also saving much valuable property which might have been utterly destroyed by the savagery of the sea. Another improvement which took effect yesterday in the addition to the signals used by the Observatory, and the stations served by it, of a Time Code. At present when a typhoon is approaching and the signals are hoisted it is impossible for those interested in the warning to tell whether the typhoon was located yesterday morning or this afternoon. The new Code remedies that fault, and the stations supplied by Zi-ka-wei will henceforth hoist signals denoting the position of the storm-centre, its direction and the time the warning was issued. All this goes to show that Zi-ka-wei is keenly anxious to do everything within human power to lessen the perils which surround the hazardous

THE NEW BOYCOTT.

(3rd January.)

Serious attention must be directed to the resurrection of the boycott movement in Canton. When the idea of boycotting American goods, in retaliation for the Exclusion Act enforced by the Government of the United States against Chinese, was first conceived, the main centre was at Shanghai, but it quickly spread and the combative nature of the Cantonese was readily aroused in support of the movement. Lately, however, mainly owing to the diplomatic statements of President Roosevelt, and possibly due to the fact that the majority of those living in Canton have been so busily engaged in considering financial ventures of one sort or another that they have had no time to indulge in airy ideas, there had been a relapse into the old condition of affairs and most people were quite convinced that the boycott had evaporated. It was only the other day that a writer in the Shanghai press stated that the word "boycott" was never heard nowadays and that the movement had died a natural death. There had been a flash and a splutter and then utter extinction. But a change has come over the spirit of our dreams, for the boycott leaders of the Cantonese have again arisen and are inflaming the people with animosity against the United States. There is no more fertile land for the cultivation of fierce and sometimes irrational hostility than Canton and there are few places where the forces of antagonism can be more readily or better organised. By the meeting which took place in Canton the other day it is quite clear that the boycott will be revived and pursued with renewed vigour. It was not absolutely clear, from the telegram which we published some days ago whether the meeting which was then held had for its object the allocation of the funds remaining in the hands of the boycott committee or the resuscitation of the plan of campaign, but our correspondent has amply confirmed the impression that there was to be a revival of the battle for the admission of Chinese to America under less restricted conditions than those which prevail at present. To a certain extent this is a new movement which has been born in Canton. Originally the anger of the Chinese was directed against the proposal to refuse admission—except under terms which practically amounted to exclusion—to all and sundry in order to divert what is known as the "yellow peril." Then America, recognising the seriousness of the situation from the standpoint of the commercial interests of the Pacific slope, announced that no hindrances would be placed in the way of bona-fide Chinese travellers, merchants, or students, the Exclusion Act being simply intended to form a barrier against coolies. The "white labourers" of various nationalities in San Francisco were, it seems, foaming with fury at the bare idea that a Chinaman should take their place. However, the official statement calmed the storm in China, at least, to all outward appear-

A GRIEVANCE AT WANCHAI.

What is described as a "public nuisance" and is unquestionably a public danger is allowed to continue in the Wanchai district of Hongkong and should receive the early attention of the authorities responsible. As every one who has travelled in that district is aware, the rickshas seem to have formed a couple of waiting stations at the entrance to the Naval Canton and at the Praya East Hotel. If the thoroughfare were as wide as Kingsway or Brooklyn Bridge it might be permissible to wink at the infraction of the law by the over-anxious coolies awaiting fares, but it happens that the roadway is comparatively narrow and is rendered still narrower by the fact that cars take up a considerable portion of the road. When the rickshas are standing at their unauthorized posts, and the cars are passing, it is practically impossible for another ricksha to pass between the two without risking injury and endangering the lives of those who still patronise the older form of conveyance. Moreover, when a probable fare appears in sight the pullers make a rush for him, entirely callous to the fact that several are occupying the car lines to the danger of all concerned, for if one ricksha is struck by an incoming car it is inevitable that all the remainder will be overturned, and it is possible that the pedestrian who hailed the vehicle will be seriously injured. It is ridiculous that such a serious nuisance should be allowed to exist in Hongkong, and that a thoroughfare all too congested as it is should be still further blocked by the gondoliers of the Colony. What should be done to direct all resting rickshas to proceed to the by-roads and there await the coming of their patrons. At Wanchai there is a quiet and unfrequented street behind the present informal ricksha station which would admirably suit the pullers, while at Arsenal Street they could be accommodated near the landing stage. At all events, something must be done and done promptly, otherwise an "unfortunate" accident to life or limb is liable to occur at any moment.

THE INDIAN CONSTABLE.

(4th January.)

On several occasions we have referred to the ineffectiveness—to put it mildly—of the Indian gentleman who stands in the middle of the street and looks as if he owned the thoroughfare. The residents of Hongkong have, except possibly in very rare cases, little cause to feel grateful for the so-called ministrations of the Sikh policeman, who airs his authority with the tyranny of an Oriental potentate, and answers the most civil question with what is little better than an insult. It may be admitted that there are a few respectable, polite and comparatively well-informed Indians on the force but they are so scattered that it would be difficult to lay hands on them. In Shanghai the Indian constables have shown how little respect they have for authority when their own interests were concerned, and several have been deported as the result of the inquiry into the circumstances which gave rise to the recent revolt. Yet, in face of these facts, which we should have thought would have been known in all the British colonies in the East, an unofficial member of the Ceylon Legislative Council had the hardihood to suggest that the ranks of the police forces in Colombo should be recruited from the Sikhs in India. It seems that there has been some question of bribery and corruption among the native section of the Ceylon force and apparently the unsophisticated member thought that he would abolish all vice, eradicate peculation, and establish a perfectly obedient, respectful, energetic, polite and wholly admirable police force which would command the instant attention of the visitor, by the importation of Sikhs. Possibly, but in our opinion, the idea was wildly Utopian. And Sir Henry Blake threw cold water on the suggestion. "In the first place," when you mention Sikh police, the general idea is that you can go to India and there you can obtain the services of men from a respectable class of Sikhs who are very dependable and useful indeed as soldiers, but my experience of the Sikh policemen we obtain is that they are not men of this class. Some of the drawbacks you gentlemen may have observed in the late condition of affairs at Shanghai, and I may tell you that the Sikh police force who is found in China very often takes the place of the Afghan money-lender here. He is often a money-lender, and he does not know the languages of the country, and he is inclined to be very rough with the people; but when he is controlled by a European police force at San Francisco he is an excellent man for regulating the market. The Sikh constable in Hongkong may have been an excellent man in Sikh territory, but he has not been adequately disciplined in the

man since those days. And if he is so very valuable in China how come it that he is so valuable in Hongkong? The Government would not have allowed him to stay in Hongkong if he was not so valuable.

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THE AMERICAN COURT IN SHANGHAI.

Readers will have noticed with impartial interest the curious tangle which occurred as the result of opening an American Court at Shanghai the other day. The learned judge ruled that all attorneys who wished to practise in his Court must first submit to an examination on certain points of law, the examination to be set and decided by him. Nine American lawyers handed in their names as candidates for admission to the bar—that is to say nine lawyers who have previously been allowed to practise, by courtesy, in the Consular Courts of the Settlement, avowed their willingness to undergo another trial as to their competency of addressing the Court in the interests of trusting clients, who had never previously doubted their all-embracing knowledge of the ponderous tomes which are the feature of every legal establishment. Only eight appeared to sit under the learned judge when the ordeal began and their examination was conducted in private. It would be easy to picture the comedy which was enacted in that lethal chamber, for lethal it undoubtedly must have been. Of the eight only two survived and they are both members of the same firm. The six who were "plucked" cannot show their faces within the precincts of the American Court again, or at least, after their present engagements have been fulfilled. It should be remembered that those practising lawyers were not fledglings who had foisted themselves on the innocent people, Americans included, of Shanghai. They had not donned and doffed a gown to which they had no manner of claim. They were men who had passed the usual examinations in law in America, who bore diplomas asserting that they were entitled to argue before the judges of the United States courts, who were duly qualified to represent any member of the litigious section of any community to which they might attach themselves, and who were, in fact and in law, lawyers. But that did not prevent the presumably learned judge from declaring them delusions and snares from a legal point of view. Now, it is quite possible, and we will take it for granted, that the unfortunates, gentlemen, who have been sent about their business, which is not law, were lawyers in the sense of having passed their examinations in their youth and had proved their fitness by enabling many innocent people to be permitted to leave the Court "without a stain on their character," and to defeat the nefarious designs of wily plaintiffs in civil suits who desired to "best" their clients. Was it to be expected that they could cram up all the knowledge which they had perforce acquired in their youth at a moment's notice from the bench? How many people in Hongkong to-day who have reached the age of 30 years will lay their hands on their hearts and say that they are prepared here and now to pass any of the examinations which were as fleas in their youth?—that is unless they are schoolmasters of some sort or other. Even the lawyers of Hongkong holding an extensive practice might well hesitate before they expressed their willingness to pass a test set by a judge wholly new to the Colony. Yet Judge Willey declared himself judge and jury over men familiar with the legal requirements of Shanghai, and has now withdrawn from them their means of livelihood not only in the American Court but also in all the Consular Courts. Would the judge be prepared to undergo an examination as to his own knowledge of the law, the examiners being the men who have been "plucked"? Once a lawyer always a lawyer may be cited as a maxim, but it had always been understood that once a man had passed his examinations in his youth before a duly constituted tribunal he could not be disbarred except for misconduct or some malpractice. No wonder there has been a rush of budding lawyers from Manila to Shanghai, for being fledglings they are likely to remember the non-essentials which were probably the rock on which the "plucked" ones fell. The fact that the two passed men belong to the same firm means that one side or another in a suit must go unrepresented until another candidate for admission to the bar of the American Court has satisfied the requirements of Mr. Willey.

STOESSER'S NEW TRIAL.

There seemed to be little in the grim aftermath of the Russo-Japanese war to arouse the risibilities of the bystanders, and nothing connected with the surrender of Port Arthur and the subsequent trial of Stuessel appeared to be conducive to mirth. It was all the other way, for no matter which of the combatants one supported there was no denying the steadiest earnestness of each. Humour, looks unconsciously everywhere, however, and it is crammed up in one of the most unexpected places, the chief characters being no less personages than General and Mrs. Stuessel. It seems that while Port Arthur was besieged, a certain Mrs. Poudsky, the widow of a captain of the same name, kept no doubt as a stand-by, two cows and a calf. These she treasured the most valuable of her possessions and lavished more than housewife's care upon them. Early and late she kept an eye on them, fed them when she was half-starved herself, neglected her children, if she had any, to nurse the calf, and ministered to its infant ailments with an assiduity which made even the mother cow jealous. Hearing of these cows and the calf, General Stuessel gave many anxious thoughts to their condition and may even have contemplated the appropriation of the bovine creatures. But fate willed otherwise, for the Japanese were pressing him on all sides and it was only a question of time when Port Arthur would be surrendered into the hands of the enemy. The fateful day arrived when General Stuessel felt himself obliged in the interests of humanity to give up his sword and admit the superiority of the Japanese invaders, and Port Arthur was no longer a Russian fortress. The Japanese *Advertiser*, which has translated the story from Russian newspapers, states that General Stuessel came forward in defence of his wife. From our contemporary's translation it would appear that the general laid the responsibility on the Japanese Government, because the cows had been taken prisoners, and he begged the Court to award his wife 25 roubles from Mrs. Poudsky as legal costs. In the event of the Court not consenting to accept his statement he prayed that, before deciding the case, some arrangement should be made for the examination of witnesses, a large number of whom lived in China and Japan, with the object of explaining the circumstances, very important in the case, that the cows were almost dead, and that they kept, owing to the dearth of everything at that time, amounted to something like 200 roubles a month, and for the entire two months to about one thousand roubles, for which sum he, Stuessel, at the request of his confidants and wife, set up a counter-claim against the ex-captainess. Mrs. Stuessel amplified her husband's testimony by declaring that the feed of the cows was not 1,000 roubles but 15,000, but she, having compassion for the position of the ex-captainess, voluntarily reduced the amount due and prayed that only one thousand roubles be awarded her! The unfortunate part of the thing is that we do not learn how the trial ended, but the picture of the widow and her cows, not omitting to mention the calf, and the commandant and this wife, who also had an eye on the two cows, etc., is surely the height of pure, unadulterated farce. As a contemporary says it is reducing the tragedy of war to the level of opera bouffe.

OUR BEGGAR POPULATION.

Some months ago, in obedience to the numerous complaints of local residents, the police authorities made a series of raids on the beggars who infested the main streets of the Colony. They were such an unmitigated nuisance that their clearance was appreciated by everybody. For some time this satisfactory state of affairs continued, but now

the old evil has returned, and at every street corner in the middle of Queen's Road, and in the very eyes of the police, that in the course of his daily rounds he was challenged by a clear marked line of demarcation which were in no case exceeded. It is a pity that the beggars are not to be followed by a clear marked line of demarcation which were in no case exceeded. It is a pity that the beggars are not to be followed by a clear marked line of demarcation which were in no case exceeded.

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THE BRITISH MINISTER TO CHINA.

Sir John Jordan, who has hitherto been acting as interim Minister to China, has now been confirmed in his appointment as His Britannic Majesty's Minister to China.

TRAGEDY IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

Lieutenant Serjeant shoots Chinese boatman.

News, though rather belated, reached us last evening to the effect that Police Sergeant Kerr, officer in charge of Ping Shan Police Station, New Territory, had shot and killed a Chinese boatman while on a hunting expedition in the Territories on Christmas Day. The boatman and the sergeant, we are informed, went out hunting together. How the shooting came about is at present unknown, but that will be explained at the Coroner's inquest which will be held some time next week. What is known, however, is that the boatman had to be brought over to Hongkong for treatment, and that one of his legs had to be amputated. He died shortly afterwards.

CRICKET.

The following is the League table up to date:

TELEGRAMS.

HONGKONG TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

AMERICAN BOYCOTT REVIVED.

LARGE MEETING AT CANTON.

CHINESE LABOURERS FOR THE PANAMA CANAL.

Shameen, 31st December, 4 p.m.

A meeting was convened by the American Boycott Association at the Kwongchi Hospital yesterday.

There were over a thousand persons present.

After the leading speakers had addressed the meeting, the following resolutions were passed, viz.:

- (1) That the boycott of all goods of American manufacture be again made effective.
- (2) That the proprietors of all Chinese newspapers be requested to decline all advertisements relating to American goods.
- (3) That Chinese labourers be dissuaded from proceeding to work at the Panama Canal.
- (4) That a petition be submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy asking the Throne to open negotiations with the American Government on the subject of the Chinese Exclusion Act.
- (5) That placards be posted throughout the country embodying the resolutions of the meeting.

SHANGHAI AMERICAN COURT.

OPENING SESSIONS TO-DAY.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE BENCH.

Shanghai, 2nd January, 2.03 p.m.

The first session of the American Court which was established lately was opened to-day under the presidency of Judge Willey.

Ten cases which appeared on the register were submitted to the judge.

Dates were assigned for their hearing.

His Honour announced from the bench that the attorneys who had failed in the examination which was held for admission at the American Court would be disbarred, but would be allowed to continue to appear in the cases in which they were already interested.

THE BRITISH MINISTER TO CHINA.

SIR JOHN JORDAN'S APPOINTMENT CONFIRMED.

Shanghai, 4th January, 2.5 p.m.

Sir John Jordan, who has hitherto been acting as interim Minister to China, has now been confirmed in his appointment as His Britannic Majesty's Minister to China.

TRAGEDY IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

LIEUTENANT SERJEANT SHOTS CHINESE BOATMAN.

News, though rather belated, reached us last evening to the effect that Police Sergeant Kerr, officer in charge of Ping Shan Police Station, New Territory, had shot and killed a Chinese boatman while on a hunting expedition in the Territories on Christmas Day. The boatman and the sergeant, we are informed, went out hunting together. How the shooting came about is at present unknown, but that will be explained at the Coroner's inquest which will be held some time next week. What is known, however, is that the boatman had to be brought over to Hongkong for treatment, and that one of his legs had to be amputated. He died shortly afterwards.

CRICKET.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE LEAGUE TABLE UP TO DATE:

Club	Matches	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Civil Service	6	4	2	0	2	14
Craigengower	8	4	2	2	2	14
Hongkong Police	7	4	2	2	1	13
H.K.C.C. "A"	5	3	2	1	0	11
Kowloon	7	3	2	2	1	10
Army Staff	4	3	1	1	1	7
R.G.A.	4	3	1	1	1	7
R.E.	2	0	0	0	0	0

3 points—a win, 2 points—a draw.

ALLEGED ASSAULT BY INDIAN SOLDIERS.

JUDGMENT RESERVED.

29th ult.

The much adjourned case in which Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor, summoned Alla Din and Mudi Khan, both of the 4th Company, 12th Baluchis, for assault alleged to have taken place at "Parkside," Kowloon, on 15th October last, was continued this morning at the Magistracy, before Mr. F. A. Hazeldene, Cross-examination was taken up by the two Indian soldiers and served on Mr. P. W. Goldring and Mr. F. C. Barlow also for assault.

Mr. G. E. Morrell, of Messrs. Denney and Bowley (Crown Solicitors), represented the complainants in the first case, while Mr. R. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Morrell asked that the summonses against his clients be struck out on the ground that the soldiers were not here at the last hearing.

Mr. Grist—Is not that rather late?

Mr. Morrell—(I made the application last week.

His Worship—As I said at the last hearing there seemed to be a misunderstanding as to why the men were not here. Your application, Mr. Morrell, is refused.

Dalliance the facts of the case briefly, Mr. Morrell stated that at nine o'clock on the morning of the 15th October, Messrs. Goldring and Barlow were passing through their garden on their way to business. Half way in the garden two Indian soldiers were seen. Each man carried a rifle. The soldiers were asked what they were doing and told to get out. The defendants began talking very excitedly, and then made a thrust at the complainants with their rifles. One man tackled Mr. Barlow while the other turned his attention to Mr. Goldring, who was struck on the face. While Mr. Goldring was mopping the blood from his nose, the soldier made an attempt to bring his gun down on his head. Mr. Goldring ward off the blow with his left forearm, bruising it very badly. Nothing more was heard until a letter was received from Col. Price complaining that his men had been assaulted. Mr. Goldring was not in the Colony at the time and no reply was sent to that letter. A lot of communications passed between the parties and as an apology from the regiment was refused the complainants decided to proceed with the case. He called Mr. Goldring to the stand.

Philip Wallace Goldring, sworn, said he was a solicitor practising in this Colony and resided at "Parkside," Kowloon. At about 9 a.m. on the 15th October he and Mr. Barlow were going through their garden towards the street gate. It is over 300 yards from the house to the gate. Witness was a little in advance of Mr. Barlow and on turning the corner at the top of the garden he saw the two defendants about 50 yards ahead. He then called Mr. Barlow's attention to them. Witness and Mr. Barlow went after the men and caught them up. Witness called out to the soldiers asking them what they were doing and told them to get out. The defendants turned round, and said something in their own language, and pushed Mr. Barlow. The latter caught hold of the man and kicked him. Witness being very ill and weak could not enter into the fray. He was standing looking on when the second defendant struck him on the face. At this point Mr. Barlow and the other Indian closed. Witness was engaged in stopping the bleeding from his nose. The next thing he saw was the second defendant rushing at him with his rifle raised. A blow was aimed at witness's head. He stepped back, raised his arm, and was struck on the arm, bruising it so badly that sleep for three or four nights was a matter of impossibility. A Kowloon ricksha coolie rushed in and relieved the second defendant of his rifle. That done the men left, being followed by witness and Mr. Barlow. (On the road witness met a native officer and got defendants' names. The next morning he left for Formosa.

"How long have you been living in this house?" asked Mr. Grist.

"Since 11th November, 1905."

"The garden of the house is a very large one?"

"About two acres."

"What enclosure has this garden?"

"A bamboo hedge and barbed wire."

"Aren't there some gaps?"

"No."

"Couldn't one have made a mistake?"

"One couldn't mistake it for anything but a private garden."

"Have there been trespassers before?"

"Yes."

"Chinese?"

"No. Always Indian soldiers."

"And what did you do?"

"I turned them out."

"Did they always go?"

"Yes. This is the first time that they refused."

"Have you complained to any officer of the regiment?"

"Yes. To the native officers."

"Don't you think it would have been better if you had reported the matter to the European officers?"

"No. I was told it would have been no good. I complained to the police."

Continuing under cross-examination, Mr. Goldring said that his attitude towards the Indians was not one of assault. The Indians might not have understood what "Get out" was, but they could see what was meant. When defendants pushed their rifles out it was not for protection against a contemplated assault. Witness was far too ill to think of fighting.

His Worship—Why do you suggest that these men should be in your garden to fight?

Mr. Goldring—I don't know why they were there.

Mr. Grist—The garden was used as a short cut, your Worship. These men were out on scouting duty.

Mr. Goldring—They did not appear to be in a hurry.

Mr. Grist—We have apologised already for the trespassing.

Mr. Goldring—Yes.

Mr. F. C. Barlow, solicitor, said he also resided at "Parkside." He said that when he saw the defendants in the garden, witness pointed at the gate and said "Go away in English." They then started the bayonet exercise. (Laughter.) One made a thrust at witness, who jumped aside, seized hold of the man, turned him round in the direction of the gate, and told him to go. That had no effect. The men were prepared to club witness and Mr. Goldring. Witness seized hold of one of the men, who had made a dash at him. Both rolled on the ground. The Indian seized witness by the throat and held him back in the bushes. Witness here corroborated the first witness's evidence as to the bayonet exercise. He said there was some more struggling between him and his man on the ground. Witness got up and the party walked to the garden gate to report the matter to some officer. They met an Indian officer on the road and reported the affair.

"Do you want us to believe that Mr. Goldring, who is known to be one of the strongest men in the Colony, would stand by and do nothing while the Indian wrestled with you?" asked Mr. Grist.

Mr. Barlow replied Mr. Barlow.

"Mr. Goldring was ill and could do nothing?"

"Yes."

"He was not too ill to walk?"

"He was just able to walk."

"Was not these men's attitude one of self-defence?"

"Certainly not."

"Did you kick one of the Indians?"

"I did."

"Have you been troubled by trespassers before?"

"Personally, no."

"Have you seen any trespassers before?"

"Yes, not often."

"What were the first words you addressed to the defendants when you first saw them?"

"I think it was 'get out.'"

His Worship: Don't you think it would have been better to have waited and seen what the men were going to do?"

Mr. Barlow: They were going towards the gate.

Mr. Morrell—That's my case, your Worship. THE CROSS-EXAMINATION.

Mr. Grist, addressing the Court, said that he admitted that the Indians were there. That they had no right there is admitted and an apology offered. The attitude of the defendants, said Mr. Grist, was purely self-defence. They were attacked by Messrs. Goldring and Barlow and did nothing more than defend themselves against an assault.

Mr. Grist then put Alla Din in the box. The latter explained that on the morning in question they were on scouting duty. Witness knew "Parkside." He was in the garden that morning. Mudi Khan was twenty paces away, walking on the grass. When the two defendants were five paces away witness first saw them, and stepped aside, thinking that the defendants were going to office. Defendants did not pass, but they kicked witness and he dropped in the bushes. When witness fell he said: "I am a Government soldier. Why do you kick me?" but the second defendant (Mr. Goldring) kicked him again. At this stage Mudi Khan came up and seized hold of the first defendant. They then left the garden, witness saying that he would complain of the assault.

Cross-examined by Mr. Morrell, witness said he saw no enclosure around the grounds and did not know it was a garden. Witness entered the garden through a path. There was no gate. There was a hedge, however, around the garden, fifteen feet high. Witness jumped that to get into the garden.

Mudi Khan was the next witness called and he corroborated the evidence of his comrade.

Major H. P. L. Parker, of the 12th Baluchis, said he knew the two defendants in this case, and the last two witnesses. Alla Din had been in the service for nineteen years and bore an excellent character. Mudi Khan had been in the regiment for six years and he also bore a good character. There had never been any complaints against the two men.

"Promotion is very slow," said Mr. Morrell.

"What do you mean?" inquired Major Parker.

"I mean that Alla Din has been so long in the service, possesses an excellent character, and is still a sepoy."

Major Parker was understood to reply that Alla Din could not fulfil any other appointment.

"Do you call your regiment a well-behaved regiment?" asked Mr. Morrell.

His Worship said that Major Parker was not obliged to answer the question, and he did not.

After both solicitors had addressed the Court at some length, His Worship said that he would like to review the evidence, and visit the grounds, and reserved his judgment.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

ROBBER SENT TO GAOL.

3rd inst.

Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this afternoon, handed out his decision good and hard in a highway robbery case which came before him for trial. The case was that in which a rough-looking individual was charged with holding up a farmer on the high road of the New Territory and robbing him of eight dollars in cash. The particulars of the "hold up" were to the following effect:—Shortly before mid-day on the 22nd ultimo, an aged farmer while on his way to Chinwan, via Lai-chi-kok, was "held up" by four men and robbed of all he possessed—\$8. The robbers, it appeared, sprang out from behind some trees and partly blinding their man with a handful of lime, set upon him with bamboo poles. When they had him overpowered he was searched and his money stolen. The robbers then fled. Three of the thugs took to the hills while one made hot-footed down the road. This man the farmer chased into Kau Pai Kan village, where he was seized by a number of villagers and handed over to Sergeant Sim, of Sam-shui-po Police Station. Here were no other arrests made. His Worship sentenced the prisoner to three months' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

BOY ILL-TREATED AND ROBBED.

A most daring piece of robbery was committed in the Central district shortly after seven o'clock last evening when two robbers "held up" a thirteen-year-old boy and robbed him of a sum of money, which belonged to his master. Two very curious things crown this "hold up." The first is that although pepper or lime was thrown into the lad's eyes he did not cry out with pain, while the second is that although he held \$50 in notes in his fist the robbers failed to notice it. At about seven o'clock last evening the lad, who is employed by a family in Hollywood Road, was sent out by his master to change a \$50 bill. Fifty dollars were to be changed into silver and the balance in notes of a small denomination. The boy got the bill changed in Queen's Road and proceeded to return home, carrying \$50 in each hand. When he got to the junction of Graham and Gage Streets—a very quiet locality—two men attacked him. They threw pepper in his eyes, knocked him on the ground, and stole the \$50 in silver which he carried in his right hand, leaving the other \$50 in the other hand untouched. This can be explained by saying that the robbers were either "new at the game," as the police think they are, or that they were frightened away on hearing the footsteps of some person in the lane. The lad returned home, told his master of his experience, and the matter was reported to Inspector Warnock, who has the matter in hand.

SUBSTITUTING BUNDLES.

CLEVER TRICKSTER CAUGHT.

3rd inst.

Just by sheer luck a thief returning from Canton early this morning on board the Canton steamer *Powan* narrowly missed losing \$1,000 odd which he had stolen from him just before the steamer came alongside the wharf. The thief was a very clever one indeed and must not have been well thought out, but the rogues did not leave the ship before his game was exposed, and the thief, together with the booty, was arrested in the fore-part of the ship. The sheriff, who has to thank his lucky star and the police for the return of his money, is

Au Tak Nam, of No. 133, Bonham Street East. He, it was said, went to Canton a few days ago to collect some money. Altogether he collected \$1,000, mostly in silver. When he got ready yesterday afternoon to return to Hongkong he placed the money in a bundle with his clothing. When he got on-board the *Powan* he placed the precious bundle on a shelf above him and, presumably, went to sleep. On awaking, the ship was making for her berth. He got down and he thought was his bundle and on opening it, to replace certain articles which had been in use during the voyage, found that although the bundle was made to resemble his it was not. His bundle and the dollars had disappeared. The substitute contained a quantity of rags and a large number of copper cash. It seems that somebody knew of the thief's mission to Canton and followed him about while in that city. They followed him about the *Powan*, and moreover, particular notice was paid to the bundle he was carrying. Without much delay the party or parties concerned hastily got together the material and made a bundle which closely resembled that of the thief, the copper cash being placed in the bogus bundle so that the thief would not mistake the weight. This completed the work of substituting the two bundles during the thief's slumber was a matter of a few minutes. Immediately the thief discovered the trick he lost no time in calling for the police, who searched all suspected persons. They then ransacked every nook and corner of the ship and soon they were rewarded. In a corner in the fore-part of the ship they found a coolie busily engaged in ripping open a bundle. He was promptly seized, and the thief found a sigh of relief as he recognised his bundle and was told that the contents were intact.

This morning, the trickster, who said he was Wong Kam, a cook, was charged, at the instance of Inspector Smith, with the offence of larceny of the valuable bundle. The charge was proved and the ingenious cook was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour and five hours' stocks, and to be deported at the expiration of his term of imprisonment.

THE BLOOF THAT FAILED.

JOHN DOWNIE'S BEHAVIOUR.

3rd inst.

John Downie, a well-known character in police-court circles, whose mind, so it is asserted, is a trifle unbalanced, had enough sense about him this morning when he tried to work a bluff on Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, which would not hold water. He was arraigned at the Police Court on a charge of absconding himself from the House of Detention.

"Your Worship, this is the first time I have been up here," said Downie, when asked to give as near as he possibly could the number of convictions he possessed.

Inspector Smith, who is well acquainted with the defendant, denied that such was the case. Downie, said he, has been known to the police for about five years. To give the Court an idea as to the number of his previous convictions without turning to the records would be impossible. He knew, however, that defendant had been already convicted—many times—for failing to return to the House of Detention.

On this last trip, says the police, Downie has been away from the House for three days. The delinquent, who is scarcely over thirty years of age, is a rascal, and is known to be an absconder, but apparently he has contracted that tired feeling so commonly known in the East, and he has been offered some good jobs but has always found some way in which to remain on these shores. About a month ago he was offered a post on board a homeward-bound ship. Downie promised he would be at hand on the day the ship was scheduled to depart. The ship, however, left without him, and when a search was made for the much-sought-after individual he was found bidden behind some boulders on the hillside.

He was sentenced to one month's hard labour.

A FEROCIOUS DOG.

ALONG THE CHINA COAST.

II.

TIDAL CURRENTS IN RIVERS.

(Continued from Wednesday.)

There is no appreciable tidal effect in rivers due directly to the tidal attractions of the sun and moon, but the tidal wave in a river is caused by the oscillation of the larger body of water into which the river empties. The sea resembles a large pond in which the water rises and falls with the oceanic tide, and a river is a canal which leads into it. The rhythmic rise and fall of the sea generates waves which would travel up the river, whatever were the cause of the oscillation of the sea and quite independent of any direct action of the sun and moon on the water in the river itself. It may readily be shown mathematically that long waves travel in shallow water, at a speed which depends only on the depth of the water, and that waves are to be considered long when the length is at least twice the depth of the water. Now the tidal wave in a river is many hundreds of miles long as the depth, and consequently it travels at a speed dependent only on the depth of the river. Moreover, its speed is very slow compared with the motion of the great tide wave in the open sea.

The terms "ebb" and "flow" are applied to tidal currents, and often in an erroneous way. Perhaps a remark or two will suffice to clear away the misunderstanding, and we shall then more readily comprehend the exact nature of a bore by seeing more definitely the relation between tidal effects in a river and those along the open sea coast. The current is properly said to be "ebb" when the water is receding from the land seaward, and to "flow" when it is approaching the shore. On the open seacoast ebb and flow are simultaneous with fall and rise and we often hear the terms used synonymously; but, as will presently appear, this is incorrect.

Let us begin by considering the tidal currents in a river of uniform depth, with so slow a proper current of its own that it may be regarded practically as a stagnant canal. The only current is due to the tide, and in this case the law is very simple. Whenever at any point on the river bank the water stands above the mean level for that place (the level mid-way between high and low water) the current is up-stream and progresses along with the tide-wave; and whenever the water stands below mean level the current is down-stream and progresses in the direction contrary to the tide-wave. Since the current is up-stream when the water is higher than the mean, and down-stream when it is lower, it is clear that it stands exactly as the tide, there is no current either way and also that at the moment of high water the current is most rapid up-stream, and at low water it is most rapid down-stream. Hence the tidal current "flows" for a long time after high water has passed and when the water-level is falling, and "ebbs" for a long time after low water and when the water-level is rising.

The law of tidal currents in a uniform canal connecting with the sea thus differs entirely from that applying on an open seacoast, where slack water occurs at high and low water, as in such a canal. But we gradually broaden and become deeper as they approach the coast, and therefore the tidal currents in actual estuaries are intermediate between those of the open seacoast and those in a uniform canal.

A river has also to deliver a large amount of water into the sea in the course of a single oscillation, and its own proper current is superposed on the tidal currents. Hence in actual rivers the resultant current continues to flow up-stream after high water is reached, with falling water-level, but ceases to flow before mean water-level is reached, and the resultant current ebbs down-stream after low water, and continues to ebb with the rising tide until mean water is reached, and usually for something afterward, the downward stream, in fact, lasting longer than the upward one. The moments at which the currents change will differ in each river according to the depth, the time and the extent of the rise and fall at the mouth, and the volume of water delivered by the river; but in every case the tide rises more quickly than it falls, so that the time-interval from low water to high water is shorter than from high water to low water.

Still another peculiarity of the tide wave in a river is of cardinal importance in the present connection. The full theory of waves would be too technical to be included in this article, and we ask the reader to accept as a fact, which can be proved theoretically, that a wave cannot progress along a river without changing its shape. The change is such that the front slope of the wave gradually gets steeper, and the rear slope becomes more gradual. If this steepening of the front or advancing slope of a wave were carried to an extreme it would result in the formation of a wall of water, but the mere advance of a wave into shallow water would by itself never suffice to produce so great a change of form without the concurrence of the natural current of the river. The downward current of the river proper has, in fact, a very important influence in heading the sea-wave back, and this co-operates with the natural change in the shape of a wave as it runs into shallow water, so as to exaggerate the steepness of the front slope of the advancing wave.

There are in estuaries of many rivers broad flats or shoals of sand or mud which are nearly dry at low water and in such situations the tide not unfrequently rises with such great rapidity that the wave assumes the form of a wall of water, and is then properly called a "bore." Let us note briefly the way in which the Hangchow Bay affords typical circumstances of this sort so that we have a most striking case of this interesting phenomenon.

THE PHYSIOGRAPHY OF HANGCHOW BAY.

Hangchow Bay or the estuary of the Chien-tang River has a very marked funnel shape. From Yangtze Cape (the extremity of Pu-tung Peninsula) on the north to Keiau Point on the south is considerably over sixty miles, while the distance between banks at point thirty miles further west is approximately only half of this and in twenty miles more has again been reduced to half, so that along the middle of Chien-tang River the "great" or "main" channel is a line approximately one mile wide, extending for over eighty miles a chain of rugged islands, beginning on the south with Chusan, by far the largest, and ending on the north in the Saddle Group, North Saddle Island being in the same latitude as the low-lying and rounded corner of Yangtze Cape. The most westward group is comprised by the Volcano Islands which lie approximately due south from the Yangtze Cape and about midway across the mouth of the bay. We shall presently refer to this group as one of the places at which definite observations of changing water-level have been made in studying the birth of the bore. Westward of this meridian the bay shoals pretty rapidly in the southern half, and at times of low water, west of 121° E. Longitude the mud dries for two miles from the southern embankment. It was off the northeast corner of this extensive "flat" that H. M. Ship "Kite" was lost.

But the most marked shoaling and constriction in the Hangchow Bay has yet to be noted. As already stated, at Chiao, which was formerly

the port of Hangchow-fu, though now little more than a fishing village with the walled-in part of the town a huge green field with perhaps a dozen houses on its southern side, the bay is about eighteen miles wide. From this point inward the general direction of the bay is southwesterly and safe navigation ends near Rumber Island, which is about eleven miles from Chiao. Here the width of the bay, for water over six feet deep, has narrowed to less than five miles and from here on inward for quite a distance the whole estuary with the exception of a very narrow region near the northern bank is a sandy shoal. Between Rumber Island and Haining is a range of hills forming a promontory that extends well out making the general direction of the Bay take a quarter turn and bringing it to the northwestward. On this promontory is the town of Kiang, and a little beyond the promontory point of land, is a group of low tide-washed islands. It is at these flats and around along the meridian of hill that an observer at the Haining Pagoda gets his first glimpse of the bore.

Just at the western end of this turn in the northern shore, is a sharp indentation protected by a good sized hill, which forms Bore-shelter Bay.

Junks going from Chiao road to Hangchow take three days, and shelter first in Bore-shelter Bay and second at Haining platform. Boats drawing over three feet should not be used. The return from Hangchow to Chiao road cannot be accomplished safely under three days in any boat. Thus in spite of being situated on the main tributary of the bay of the same name, the city of Hangchow the capital of the rich and populous province of Chekiang, the centre of a great silk producing district and of the manufacture of the best silks, being the sole source of the silk fabrics supplied to the Imperial household, and a great centre of Chinese culture and literature, has practically no direct communication with the sea. There is a small canal connecting it with Haining, but practically its whole export trade passes through Shanghai by way of the water route.

The population of the city is estimated at 350,000 and in 1905 the total of the trade of the port amounted to 17,496,980 Haikuan Taels. Marco Polo commented upon the vast array of ships in the harbour of Hangchow, but now only a little shipping is found in the bay; so that either the tides in the bay have greatly changed since the days of Marco, or that famous traveller has given us another item on which to charge him with exaggeration.

The city itself has certainly lost the grandeur which he ascribed to it, although the famous Western Lake outside the west wall, and extending nearly its whole length, has probably lost little of its natural beauty which prompted the saying—

"Above us lies the heavenly blue,

While here below lies Hang and Soo."

But as others already pointed out while Hangchow may owe its chief fame to this lovely lake with its temples and islands and surrounding hills on whose slopes giant trees and groves of tall bamboo afford grateful shade for spacious temples, now mostly in decline, it certainly owes its very existence toward the southwest to the construction of the sea wall, called by natives the bore wall.

It is probably true that some thousands of years ago the great flat area now forming a considerable part of the provinces of Chekiang and Kiangsu was under water and that the Yangtze, gradually increasing its delta, reclaimed the land. The inhabitants to assist the river in its land-forming process; built sea walls, using the various islands as corner-stones. The wall or dyke confining the waters of the Haining-Hangchow Canal is probably one of these early structures, which, like better wharves, the dykes, and the levees, have been gradually multiplied and extended, they caused the projecting north point formed by the alluvial deposits of the Yangtze and the Chien-tang Kiang to extend seaward, thus forming the present funnel-shaped mouth of the latter river, as already noted, and obstructing to a considerable extent the progress of the ocean-tide, the northern promontory deflecting it inward and the shoals causing it to heap up into an increasingly powerful wave—the fore-runner of the present bore. Against this rush of water the poorly constructed dykes were insufficient, and the water along the shores of Hangchow Bay, especially on the northern side, frequently suffered great losses.

THE GREAT SEA WALL.

Just when and how and at what cost the present substantial sea wall was constructed are now matters for more or less conjecture, the historical records of the province being so meagre that it is impossible to glean from them any information as to the progress of the wall with fanciful legends to be retold in connection with so great a work. One of the most interesting of these stories refers to what was perhaps the first attempt at anything like an adequate sea-wall. It is to the reign of Emperor Huang Wu (25 A.D.) an official, Hua Hsin, proposing to build a sea wall opposite the present site of Hangchow, issued a proclamation offering 1,000 "cash" (about fifty cents gold) for every man-load of earth that the people should bring to the river-bank. On the appointed day a "great cloud" of men, women and children came to the earth. At a given signal every one took up his load and carried it to the spot indicated by Hua Hsin's lieutenant. At this juncture, Hua Hsin himself appeared and feigning surprise when told of the large sum to be paid per man-load, he ordered the people away, saying it was nonsense to talk of such high wages. Roused to indignation the people threw down their loads and walked away. Not wishing to carry the earth back again, they had unwittingly dropped it just where the wily official wanted it. Thus in one day Hua Hsin, by his trickery, built a sea-wall of great height and one that withstood the bony waves for many years.

In spite of this assertion of the native chronicler, however, a dyke built in this fashion was sure to prove flimsy to withstand the impacts of such tides as sweep the Bay, and we are not surprised to find frequent reference to daily sacrifices to the Water Dragon for protection against the powerful waters. It was not until the period of the Five Rulers that the prayers were answered by the appearance of a man of works as well as of faith, the "great" Prince Chien, Hangchow's most famous man. Many places of interest about the city still bear his name in recognition of his great services to the people, which included besides the less tangible, though none the less real, benefits of a wise and capable government, the more "substantial" benefits arising from the efficient fortification of the capital city, the preservation of the West Lake as a water supply, the building of public roads, institutions of learning, and canal, and in view of present considerations, the fact that he was one of the places at which definite observations of changing water-level have been made in studying the birth of the bore. Westward of this meridian the bay shoals pretty rapidly in the southern half, and at times of low water, west of 121° E. Longitude the mud dries for two miles from the southern embankment. It was off the northeast corner of this extensive "flat" that H. M. Ship "Kite" was lost.

But the most marked shoaling and constriction in the Hangchow Bay has yet to be noted. As already stated, at Chiao, which was formerly

"Unfortunately there appears to be no record of how these difficulties were really overcome, although as usual the native historian has felt impelled to leave a rather poetic narrative concerning an achievement so vital in its importance to the inhabitants of so large a region. It is to the effect that in the eighth month of the fourth year of the Kai Ping, the energetic and dauntless Prince Chien, began the construction of a great wall along the borders of the Chien-tang Kiang." Put the daily rush of the tides destroyed the work as fast as it was laid, so that a petition was addressed to Heaven, praying that the tides be withheld for two months until the Prince could get the seawall well under way. Another petition was addressed to Wu Tzu-hu, a local deity, who was supposed to be able to restrain his wrath over this interference with the tidal movements for a little while. At last to make results doubly sure, he also wrote a poem to the Water Dragon, whose yamen is in the briny deeps, beseeching the loan of the waters' control for a brief time, that he might succeed in completing the wall to the salvation of his people.

This done, he had three thousand arrows made, and covered with deer's hair, dyed in cinnamon and furnished with points of hardened iron. These arrows he placed in six separate piles distributed over the lands daily washed by the tides. He then took a great number of squares of silk of several different colors, and great quantities of choice articles of food, and some incense, six portions of each item, and placed them in six separate incense-burners by the side of the six piles of bows and arrows. All this was accomplished before the going of the third watch had sounded, after which he awaited the coming of day. When morning broke he poured out three libations of wine, and prayed to the six Gods to "Send 600,000,000 soldiers and Liu Chien Liu" with him, with this arrows exterminate the uncleanly water dragon, and to cause the ocean to dry up and prevent the thousand spirits and the one hundred demons from bringing in the destructive tides. Grant my wish, O Shen Chun, and quickly aid, sustain and command me to do this great work." On the morrow he had five hundred skilled archers shoot at the proper moment directly into the heads of the on-coming billows. Each man took up six arrows, one for the head of each billow, and when they had shot five arrows straight into as many lofty waves, the waters suddenly turned and fled.

Whereupon the Prince lost no time in driving great piles by the river bank among which strong creels of bamboo were woven, the whole being filled with earth and large stones. Thus he connected the two ends of his wall and shut out the destructive waters, and thus, we may add, does the historian avoid telling us the true details of the very part of the construction which in its successful accomplishment constitutes the chief wonder.

But it was not enough simply to build the wall. It must be kept in repair, and consumed enough, the native chronicler has accounted minutely for the cost of the up-keep, which is said to be on the average Tls. 250,000 per annum, which has had many people of this region to call this seawall "China's Second Great Sorrow," giving place only to the Yellow River as her "First Great Sorrow."

For purposes of management and repair the wall is divided into three major divisions with a superintendent over each. These divisions are again divided into many sections about a mile long, and for each mile there are at ordinary times four to six watchmen who patrol their section much as railroads are usually patrolled.

The first cost of construction must have been enormous, and the mere existence of the wall suffices to show that it must have been of vital importance and that the land it reclaimed and now protects must have been of immense value to justify such an expenditure.

As it exists to-day its total length is one hundred and eighty miles, and for one-third of this distance it is faced, as at Haining, with heavy blocks of granite and varies from twenty-five to thirty feet in height above low water. Each successive higher layer of granite is receded about five inches from the one below, a very wise arrangement when after descending to get camera views of various parts of the wall just before a bore was due, we had hastily to retreat before the on-coming tide.

The main difficulty in maintaining an efficient seawall would seem to be to have an outer footing adequate to break the first violence of the incoming bore and to prevent the undermining of the foundations of the main building—in fact it would seem essential that the tides should be entirely kept from entering behind the wall, and that the Chinese engineers have apparently succeeded in accomplishing this very satisfactorily in a two-fold fashion—i.e., by a sea-foot proper and by frequent projecting "buffers," a combination which besides giving a substantial sea-barrier also affords excellent and frequent refuges for the junks whose masters must needs brave the dangers and difficulties of navigation in a river so fiercely tide-swept as this is.

At the level of the sixteenth ledge from the top, in this step-like face of the wall just referred to, i.e., about twenty feet below the top of the wall, there extends outward a granite platform several layers deep and about fifteen feet wide. At the outer edge of this platform a row of piles are set close together and deeply driven into the river bed. Here there is a drop of four or five feet followed by another shelving granite platform, somewhat wider than the first and similarly edged with several rows of much heavier and more numerous piles. Here there is a further drop of six or eight feet to a sandy beach which for a yard or two is rock strewn and studded with piles, a jagged fringe of which about ten feet further out marks the outer edge of this remarkable barrier.

At intervals of half a mile, or less in the immediate vicinity of Haining, huge projecting buffers in semi-elliptical form have been built of brush and piles. The ends of the brush which has been stacked and interwoven in horizontal layers are presented on all sides and down through the mass several concentric rows of stout piles have been driven. These buffers are slightly higher than the seawall itself and also extend out beyond the last row of piles which forms the edge of the wall's sea-foot. Topped with earth which affords a rooming place, for bushes and small trees, they constitute a notable feature of this very creditable piece of Chinese engineering. Some idea of the destructive force of the bore may be had by inspecting the first buffer east of the pagoda. It is about one-third demolished, so that instead of a well rounded form it now consists of four or five distinct terraces, which are probably constantly settling down and pushing the lower terraces into positions affording less resistance to the tide. On the other hand the buffer just west of the pagoda is in splendid repair and behind it high up on the topmost granite platform several junks were enjoying a safe stay.

The stones on the top of the wall are from twelve to sixteen inches wide, sixteen to eighteen inches thick, and from three and a half to four feet long; and most of the blocks used both in the wall and in the platforms of the footing seem equally as large. Along the top of the wall adjacent stones are fastened together by heavy iron mortises in the shape of a double wedge four or five inches broad, two flanking each pair of stones. Whether the lower layers of blocks

are mortised in the same way we were unable to determine, though a friend has reported that he has observed these links also in the slabs forming the footing platform, though we were not in the past we examined. On the top of the building from Hangchow to beyond Haining, about forty-five miles, there is a broad earth roadway, suitable for riding or even driving, though the latter might be risky, a unique country road for the part of the province we have seen. Back of the roadway there is a further embankment some ten feet high and about fifteen or twenty feet thick, which completed the barrier to the encroachment of the boisterous tides. I especially call to mark a vantage point from which to view the approach and passage of the wonderful wave which sweeps past at every tide.

The Haining pagoda, which has been mentioned already, is apparently not very old and was probably built as we shall note later on, by a Buddhist believer in *feng shui*, as a protection to the land and the city against the ravages of the "serpent's head." It is a fair specimen of its class, and certainly forms the most prominent eminence on that section of the wall and together with the more recently constructed pavilion just below it, serves well to mark a vantage point from which to view the approach and passage of the wonderful wave which sweeps past at every tide.

[To be concluded.]

THE KOWLOON RAILWAY.

COOLIE AND A LOCOMOTIVE.

Chao Chen, a surface man, employed on the Kowloon-Canton Railway, was arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, this morning, at the Magistrate's, on a charge of maliciously damaging, with intent to render useless, a locomotive, the property of the Railway Contractors, at Tai-tok-tsoi, yesterday.

Defended pleading guilty to the charge. It was about fifteen minutes, when the men were off duty, that accused boarded a locomotive, and pulling the lever, started her engine. He knew how to start, reverse the engine, but did not know how to stop it. When he found the engine going at a good pace in the direction of the sea, and his efforts to stop her useless, defendant jumped off, and allowed the engine to go ahead. After a few yards the locomotive swerved and crashed into a stack of timber, doing slight damage to herself. The noise of the impact attracted the attention of the other men, who promptly arrested accused. He was sentenced to fourteen days' hard labour and six hours' stocks.

THE PROHIBITION AGAINST OPIUM AND OPIUM ACCESSORIES.

A recent report that the local native authorities are trying to extend the Imperial prohibition against opium, and opium accessories within the boundaries of the Foreign Settlements of Shanghai and in doing so seek to persuade the Consular Body to allow the summary arrest and punishment of owners of Chinese drugshops and dispensaries, doing business inside the Settlements, who sell and consume pills containing either morphia or opium, is causing much indignation and unrest amongst many of our Chinese fellow-residents, says the *N. C. D. News*. It is stated that the reason of the delay in putting this new law into effect has been owing to the non-reply of the Consular Body to the Shanghai Taotai's dispatch upon the subject. Many Chinese business men here, even those not addicted to the opium habit, consider the desire to "shut down" upon the habit and close the premises of dealers in the commodity too sudden, for many of them, never dreaming of such a move, are engaged in the business of selling and consuming pills containing either morphia or opium, and are well off in this world's goods, at the present moment. It must be borne in mind that it is not the prohibition law that is objected to but the summary manner with which it is purposed to apply the law by the Chinese officials. Then again, what, if by the Foreign Settlements, the law be enforced on the understanding that it is being similarly enforced in the Chinese territory and be bound out that after all, as on many previous occasions, there has only been a perfunctory enforcement of the law? The chances are, we should think, that many Chinese would prefer to "cross the border" and seek "peace" there from the prying eyes of a vigilant Municipality. 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THE BOYCOTT MOVEMENT.

MASS MEETING AT CANTON.
TRENCHANT RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY
ENTHUSIASTIC BOYCOTT.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]
Canton, 31st December.
In accordance with the telegram received from the Chinese in Canton regarding the Exclusion Act, which was reported on the 29th inst., a public meeting was held yesterday in the Kwongchi Hospital. There were over a thousand people present and Mr. Ma Fat Son, the released boycott leader, was in the chair. The following resolutions were passed by the meeting: (1) To boycott American goods and to encourage local industry. (2) To start boycott again by the majority of those who deal in American goods, and to establish a shop for the disposal of all American goods on hand, in such a way as to curtail the loss to owners. (3) To send members to various places to encourage the boycott (feeling with songs and speeches). (4) To translate those books received from America regarding the American ill-treatment of the Chinese, for the information of the public. (5) To post up proclamations in all parts of the city containing the telegram from Canton, asking the native newspapers not to publish advertisements of American goods, any paper doing contrary to be boycotted by the public. (6) All present to post up placards at their houses, stating that they boycott American goods, and to inform all student to do likewise. (7) Next meeting to take place on the 2nd of January and the following meeting on the 5th, at noon. (8) To ask the seventy-two Guilds to appoint assistants in managing boycott affairs. (9) To petition the Viceroy to stop labourers from going to work in Panama and also request H.E. to advise the Throne to take up the discussion of the American Chinese Exclusion Act with the American Government.

UPROAR IN THOMAS' HOTEL.

AMERICAN JACKS AT LOGGERSHEADS.

In Thomas' Hotel last night shortly after the dinner hour a number of American and British sailors were seated around tables drinking and talking loudly. The men from the West Virginia occupied a table all to themselves. So did the Pennsylvania crowd, while, needless to say, the Austrians kept to themselves.
"I guess that there is not another ship flying the Old Glory on the Asiatic squadron that can lick us at shooting," one of the West Virginians is alleged to have boasted.
"Now cut it out," came from the Pennsylvania end of the table.
"Cut you out in two shakes if yer don't keep that lower lip of yer's quiet," returned the West Virginia spokesman.
"If you wants to see home and mother again I reckon you'd better hold in cable, mate," said the other.
The West Virginia man opened hostilities, with a beer bottle which he flung at his rival, who ducked in time and saved his head. The Pennsylvania crowd returned the compliment with interest and the battle opened. Bottles were sent sailing about the room like snowflakes, intermixed with a couple of chairs, which did duty on both sides, and pandemonium reigned supreme. Anything that was handy was turned into a weapon by them, even the white-topped tables—too heavy to be lifted—did duty to jam a man against the wall.
The Austrians sailors, who had all this time been quiet, suddenly pitched into the fray, for had not a stray beer bottle collided with one of their men's heads, causing a lump to rise immediately? With the two American gangs joyously hammering each other, and the Austrians attacking both, things looked very bad indeed.
While this triangular battle was at its height the door was pushed open and a man in a blue jacket, but from another ship. They had not crossed the door-mat before another misdirected missile struck one of them squarely on the mouth, causing blood to flow.
"By gad, mates," said the newcomer, "they've handed me a lemon."
"It isn't a lemon; it is a soda-water bottle," said one of his friends, eyeing the bottle on the floor. Without another word the newcomers dashed into the fighting mob, and the West Virginians and the Pennsylvanians were called upon to defend themselves against the Austrians and the newcomers.
In the meantime the police had been sent for and when they arrived the fighters made a dash for the back door, the majority being successful in effecting their escape. A sailor from the West Virginia was arrested, and an Austrian sailor, whom they removed to the Station, on the complaint of the manager of the hotel, who alleged disorderly behaviour and damage to property to the extent of \$27.
They were arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, this morning, to plead to the charge, but the defendants could remember nothing.
The manager of the hotel was called, and he testified to the damage done, ending up with: "They smashed up everything in sight. Everything was turned topsy-turvy."
His Worship, who was informed that the defendant American was the cause of the whole trouble, fined him \$22, and the Austrian \$5, the money to go to Thomas' Hotel as compensation for the damage done.

FIRE IN KOWLOON.

DAMAGE RESULTING FROM THE LACK OF WATER.

At two o'clock this morning fire broke out in a woodshed in the vicinity of the Green Island Cement Works in Kowloon. An hour later news of the outbreak had been conveyed to the Hongkong police authorities and two firemen were despatched to the scene to render whatever assistance they could. When they got to the Cement Works they found that there was a solitary fire engine quietly standing idle while the fire was burning merrily. There were no water mains in the vicinity and the tide being low, no water could be drawn from the harbour. Consequently the firemen had the pleasure for once of being in the position of spectators instead of being interested parties in a battle. A manual pump was in operation, but it proved of little avail. The fire burned itself out. It is stated that the damage, which is covered by insurance, will amount to several thousand dollars.
While the first fire was in progress, news arrived that another outbreak had occurred at Homantin, Yau-mai. The firemen marched off to that blaze, hoping that their efforts would be appreciated. But it was the same story over again—no water and no way of combating the flames. The strong wind carried the fire, which started in a hut, along a row of huts, which were all consumed. The damage, unassured, amounted to about \$500. In neither case is the origin of the fire known.

"PENNSYLVANIA" MINSTRELS.

and inst.
Musical satisfaction was very evidently expressed by performers and audience alike at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, last night, when the "Pennsylvania" Theatrical Company occupied the stage for a Grand Vaudeville and Minstrel performance.

The audience, who were most pleased with the entertainment provided, while we have authority for saying that the performers were more than satisfied with the "house," that greeted them when the curtain was rung up at 9 p.m.—or thereabouts. It was somewhat curious, with all the musical and histrionic talent in our midst, that it should have been left to our foreign naval guests to provide us with a public entertainment for New Year's Day. That being so, they certainly deserved the very full house and the appreciation of the audience which attended, and unstinted approval of the performers. A very good programme gone through by the talented Tars of this novel naval troupe. After an overture, bearing the amusingly appropriate title, "I'm getting sleepy," by the orchestra, the company gave the opening chorus, "You're a grand Old Flag" in fine swinging style, which was most vociferously applauded. The end men then convulsed the audience with comic antics and funniness of a fresh and breezy and refined character. The songs were all new to Hongkong, such as the ballad "Moon Doo," excellently sung by W. J. Buddenburgh, the topical song "Nonsense" cleverly rendered by T. Ackerman, "Cheyenne," a popular selection, given by E. H. Vollinger, comic song, "Bell Simmons" by D. N. Calderhead, ballad, "Waltz me around again, Willie," by Harry O'Marrah, and the finale "For the Stars and Stripes and You," by the Company, all of which were well received by the audience, the encores following being undeniable. The characteristic piece—"Woodland Whispers" was a very pleasing number, and the Benefactors were then amusingly taxed by S. O. Thatcher. "How to be happy thought married," which was followed, after the laughter had subsided, by the new naval song "Keep on the Target," by T. Ackerman, which brought the first part to a close. After a short intermission, the orchestra opened the second part with the ever-popular "Cavalleria Rusticana" in very fine style, and then came the *pièce de résistance* of the evening, the one-act farce-comedy, "A man of the world," by A. Lincoln Fisher, under the direction of Mr. W. Feldman, the following being the cast:—
Daniel Sowerman, Theatre Manager, S. O. Thatcher
Charles Rafter Sunflower, a Dusky Messenger, D. N. Calderhead
Boy Crapper, a Bowler, E. V. Annatoyne
Sissy Decker, Miss Mo'her's
Pet, a Girl, W. Feldman
Fritz Dinkelpiel, a Stage
Struck Dutchman, T. Ackerman
Orlando Tatters, Relic of the Old Legitimate, W. J. Buddenburgh
Dennis McSwat, One of the
foinst, A. P. Kent
Eudoxio Pessimions, a
Timid Little Girl, H. H. Whitmore
Scene:—Daniel Sowerman's Booking Office.
Time:—Present—New York.
This was splendidly staged, and was as good as anything seen here, whether professional or amateur, each participant in the "fun" being perfect in his part. The following were the members of the troupe who contributed to the evening's entertainment, the Minstrel part being under the direction of D. P. Upham, a very practised interlocutor.
J. Weizel, M. J. Weher, J. P. Hyland, W. G. Busch, F. Banchio, W. I. Martin, R. Jones, W. Rndcliffe, H. E. O'Marrah, W. Harvey, M. J. Ratus, W. J. Buddenburgh, C. A. Blackman, E. H. Vollinger, S. B. Hue, T. S. Graig, E. H. H. H. Whitmore, T. Ackerman, D. N. Calderhead, E. V. Annatoyne, F. E. Holt, N. Klemmer.
The Executive staff included Managing Director, Lieut. W. G. Roper, U.S.N. Director, Dexter P. Upham, Stage Manager, W. Feldman, Asst. Stage Manager, O. S. Thatcher, Advance Representative, Midn. A. W. Fitch, U.S.N. Property-man, A. P. Kent, Musical Director, U. Poppi.
Taken altogether the performance was a most enjoyable one, and one such as we here do not often have the pleasure of witnessing. The greatest credit is due to Lieut. Roper, who, with his band of "navy" men, has done for the excellence of the entertainment provided, and the thoroughness with which everything was done, to prevent a very pleasant and enjoyable night's entertainment, and one and all are to be congratulated on the success achieved.

TRIAD SOCIETY FIGHT

AVERTED.

BY POLICE GANG.

What would have been a serious fight was averted last night at West Point by the timely intervention of the West Point police. During the whole of yesterday a rumour was in circulation in Chinese circles to the effect that a Triad Society fight on a large scale was on the books to take place that night. Inspector Collett got to work immediately and after some inquiries learnt that there was truth in the matter. At about 8 p.m., Sergeant Gordon and a posse of men left No. 7 Police Station and, on arrival on the Praya at Shek-long-tsuai was in the nick of time to stop the fight, for the two gangs were in preparation to sail into each other, but as soon as they saw the police they took to their heels. The police gave chase and arrested four men. On these were found various kinds of knuckle-dusters and fighting irons. At the station they told the police that the West Point Triads and the Triads of the Central districts were at loggerheads, and that they were about to bring matter to a head when the police interfered. When the quartette were safely under lock and key, Sergeant Gordon and his men went out again, this time to raid the premises of the West Point Triad Society. They went to a house bearing the sign of "Ye To Cheung," 3, Mei Kwei Lane, and after securing two choppers, a number of fighting irons and various other implements used by this society. They found no documents, however. In the kitchen of the flat they found a man, who said he was employed there as a cook, and he was taken in charge. The five men were arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court this morning. Four of the men were under charges of disorderly behaviour, and the cook was indicted for unlawful possession of dangerous weapons. They were all found guilty. The four men were fined \$50 each, and the cook was mulcted in the sum of \$100. They went to gaol for various terms.

FROM all accounts the last issue of *The Godown* has not "gone down" in certain quarters and a criminal member of the lawless fraternity has been requested to take proceedings against those responsible for the journal on account of certain statements which appear therein. *Shanghai Times*.

A MODEL GERMAN SETTLEMENT.

THE CITY OF TSINGTAU.

Mr. John Edward Jones, American Consul at Dally, Manchuria, makes an interesting report in regard to the City of Tsingtau, which is under German control, as follows:—
Tsingtau boasts a number of hotels where one may find suitable quarters with good food from \$10 to \$25 gold per month. There is a fine beach hotel located at the bathing beach where many of the visitors from neighbouring ports go during the heated term. Germany maintains a garrison at Tsingtau, and many of the surrounding hills are fortified. Long-distance gun practice takes place every day. And there is yet another feature that is to be most heartily commended. The authorities have been conducting a department of forestry since their occupation, with the result that the barren hills of a few years ago are now covered with young forests. Millions of young trees have been set out, and the work has been taken up by the Chinese, who are planting trees themselves under the supervision of the German authorities.
Just outside the city the Germans have built a village for the Chinese. It is a model of its kind, with broad streets and small but well-constructed brick houses. There are regulations in force over there which require the city to be kept clean, and they are obeyed. The Chinese have plenty of breathing space and there is no crowding, with the attendant evils of bad sanitation. A fine market place is set aside, and here the farmers come every day to display and sell their wares.
The health of the city is always good. Strict hygienic methods are enforced by the naval Governor of the city. The city is surrounded with beautiful drives, and everything bears evidence of the strictest care. Recently the Germans have opened a European school, and Europeans for many miles around take advantage of the excellent course and training and send their children to Tsingtau.
There is a model abattoir at Tsingtau, presided over by a competent veterinarian, who examines all cattle brought in for slaughter. The abattoir is much larger than the present requirements of the community and is fitted with all modern appliances. The most scrupulous cleanliness prevails. A model truck farm and dairy also add to the comfort of the people.
BUSINESS IS FLOURISHING.
Quite a flourishing business is being done at Tsingtau. The country is so new commercially that her exports up to this time are not very large; but she is growing every year, as is attested by some figures furnished by the Government.
The imports have increased from \$10,000,000 gold in 1904 to \$16,200,000 gold in 1905, while the direct export to foreign countries approximated during 1905 \$3,600,000 gold, nearly trebling the amount of 1904. The recent increase in exports was the feature of the year, which heretofore has been a weak point in the trade of the port. Among these two staples appeared for the first time in quantities—coal and bean cake. These give great promise of future development. Another and perhaps most important, since the business has been done directly with the United States, is the exportation of straw braid. This staple has, with the assistance of the railway, been diverted from other ports in China. The total exports for the year have been 44,477 piculs (about 5,500,000 lbs.). In 1903 it was 6,000 piculs (about 750,000 lbs.), while in 1904 it aggregated 25,383 piculs (about 3,170,000 lbs.). Tsingtau has now become the principal market for straw braid, and the trade of Tsingtau and Cheloo has suffered accordingly. The railway has been largely responsible for this. It reaches the very best territory for this material and, what with its excellent harbour offers exceptional advantages—not shared by other ports.
A mint for the coinage of copper in cash pieces has been opened by the Shantung Government, and much of the copper used for this purpose is imported from Japan in ingots. For 1905, 15,000 piculs (about 1,900,000 lbs.) were imported.
During 1905 there was a brewery established, which is exporting its product to various ports, a soap manufactory and a tannery.
"FREE AREA" RESTRICTED.
The German Government has recently decided to restrict to the harbour the "free area" which hitherto comprised the whole of the German territory and, therefore, necessitated frontier and railway control by the customs. The additional customs convention, concluded on December 31, 1905, is now in force. Customs control of the railway traffic outside of the free-port territory and of the frontier has ceased. Merchandise leaving the free-port territory pays import duty according to the general tariff, and is then free to go anywhere within the country without restriction. The German Government reserves 10 per cent of the duties as a contribution to the expenses of the territory, the amount being subject to revision every five years.
A total of 400 steamers and 6 sailing vessels, aggregating 422,673 tons, entered the port of Tsingtau during the year. Of these, 337 steamers and 6 sailing vessels arrived with cargo, and 63 steamers and 6 sailing vessels in ballast. During the year 399 stow-aways and 6 sailing vessels cleared, of which 315 steamers left with cargo and 84 steamers and 6 sailing vessels in ballast. "S" compared with the previous year shows an increase of 55,000 tons of cargo. During the year 1,338 foreigners and 3,988 native passengers arrived, and 1,265 foreigners and 4,253 natives departed. By rail there were 723,393 arrivals and 135,176 departures.

MISCELLANEOUS ENTERPRISES.

The Shantung Railway did a prosperous business during the year, having conveyed 30,300,000 tons of goods and 795,000 passengers, which is an increase of 65 per cent in point of freight and 42 per cent larger in passenger traffic than the preceding year.
The Shantung Mining Company is also progressing, raising 124,000 tons of coal during the year. The opening of the "Annie Pitt" during the year greatly increased the production. There are 2,000 Chinese employed at the main workings, and their pay averages from 200 to 400 "cash" per day (20 to 40 cents gold). They work in shifts of eight hours.
The floating dock is capable of taking in vessels of 16,000 tons capacity. During the year 1905 the dock took in and repaired eight war and merchant vessels of a combined tonnage of 14,644 tons. The dock is fitted with the most modern appliances for lighting with an electrical supply operated from a central station, so that work can be carried on during the night. A steam plant is also provided that vessels in the dock may be heated during the winter. The workshops are fitted for all kinds of work, and two cranes of 20 tons capacity each are available. The docking rates differ according to the size of the vessel, from 40 cents Mexican (about 20 cents gold) per ton for a 500 ton vessel to 20 cents Mexican (10 cents gold) per ton for a vessel of 6,000 tons.

The silk industrial establishment, which gives practical experience to the graduates of the sericulture schools, is in full operation, and its products find a ready sale. Presently it employs about 650 hands. The majority of the labourers have had training in the sericulture schools and execute very good work. The exportation of silk during the year 1905 was a disappointment. This was due in large measure to the low prices prevailing in Shanghai, and much of the silk which otherwise would have come to Tsingtau was sent by junk to Peking and Manchuria.
The Germans are looking forward with great expectations to the opening of the two new silk schools established in Tsingtau and Changhsien, which are reported to be doing well and turning out a considerable number of skilled hands whose work will tell in the immediate future. Quite a business is done in peanut oil, although the yield for 1905 was not generally bought, and a considerable amount still remains on hand.

THE "VARUNA."

MOST POWERFUL TUG IN THE EAST.

LAUNCHED IN SINGAPORE.

In the early part of the year the Tanjong Pagar Dock authorities decided to build a powerful tug and salvage steamer to be superior to the present tug *Mercury* and *Sandia* and, in June, the keel of the projected vessel was laid down at Keppel Harbour. Since then the work has steadily progressed and to-day the *Varuna*, as the vessel is called, lies ready for launching, says the *S. F. Press* of 21st inst.
The *Varuna*, it is claimed, will be the most powerful tug and salvage steamer in the East and under tug circumstances some description of her will not be out of place. To begin with, it may be explained that the *Varuna* is the name of an old Hindu deity, the equivalent of *Athena*, and is pictured as a white man on horse, but instead of the trident the god carries a club and a rope. The name is certainly well-chosen, being euphemistic and very applicable to the vessel and a port from which the "white man" rules the water.
To describe how vastly superior the new steamer is to the old tugs can best be done by comparing her with them. She is ten times more powerful than the *Mercury*, the biggest of the old pair, and is really an ocean-going tug and salvage steamer. Her length is 120 ft., beam 28 ft. and draft 13 ft. Her double set of triple expansion engines develop about thirteen hundred horse power, while the tandem engines of the old *Mercury*—once looked upon as a regular Titan—can only wring out 200 horse power. Still for thirty-five years the name-sake of the vessel God has served her purpose admirably and is good for many more yet, her voyage to Manila shortly to bring up the U.S. transport *McClellan* vouching for this. Not only is the *Varuna* of tremendous towing power, but she is to have the most modern and powerful salvage apparatus, not the least of which is a powerful Merryweather fire pump which was specially ordered out from home for her. This giant pump is capable of throwing ten tons of water minute and she is to have not only the statement before it is quite reliable. All the salvage machinery on the vessel will be driven by electricity and she has tools—drilling machines—which can be operated under water when at work on the submerged portion of a ship's hull. There are also powerful electric lights for use above and below water and the principal of these is a 70,000 candle power search-light, which should prove useful in picking up a stricken vessel at night. The Merryweather pump can either be used as a fire pump or a salvage pump and like all the world of this well-known firm is simple and strong. Slight forward the *Varuna* will have a handy derrick by which all the salvage gear and any extra apparatus may be handled easily and quickly. The engine-room is an interesting part of the little steamer for she is engineered like a destroyer. The high pressure cylinder is 73 in., the intermediate 22 in., and the low pressure 36 in., whilst the stroke is 22 in. The power for the twin engines comes from duplicate Marine return type boilers which have three furnaces each. The machinery was all made at the Docks, the pump and the electrical apparatus being the only things obtained from home. On either side of the engine-room are the coal bunkers which have a capacity of 120 tons, thus the vessel has a steaming radius of 1,764 miles—seven days at a steady ten knots. The *Varuna's* full speed being estimated to touch fifteen knots.
Besides being invaluable for salvage work the "Varuna" will find plenty of work at the wharves on which to utilise her great strength—particularly in towing big vessels away from the wharves where the strength of the current often keeps them bound in. Her twin screws and short hull ought to make her an easy craft to turn and indeed it is believed that it will be able to turn her in her own length.
The *Varuna* will take the water shortly after noon to-day, and yesterday preparations for her launch were being made. The "christening" is to be performed by Lady Evelyn Young and is timed for noon sharp, high water being at 12 p.m. On the starboard bow of the vessel, which points landward all vessels being launched stern first, a small platform has been erected and from this Lady Evelyn Young will cut the ribbon and smash the bottle of champagne over the bows.
All around the vessel a space has been cleared, and yesterday the ways were greased with large quantities of soft soap and tallow so that the vessel on the slipway may glide easily into the water.
Early this morning the sheers, bilge blocs and keel blocks were knocked away and the vessel was "put on the dagers" as it is called. The "dagers" are two trussers or wedges which hold the sliding way on the permanent way and when these are knocked free the sliding way will carry the *Varuna* to the water.
Immediately after her launch the *Varuna* will be towed away to Tanjong Pagar to have her engines and boilers put into her, and then she will go into one of the dry docks for the final work.

REVENUE FARMERS DENOUNCED.

Viceroy Chow Fu of Canton has recently memorialized the Throne denouncing the system of farming out the collection of taxes on local products, imports and exports to syndicates of capitalists, a practice very much in vogue in the Southern provinces, and especially in Canton. The memorialist declares that the poorer merchants, handicraftsmen and agriculturists are downtrodden and much oppressed by the myrmidons employed by the syndicates to collect revenues who obtain the privilege of doing it to such a year paid in a lump sum to the Provincial Treasury, whose officials thereby enjoy all the leisure and comfort without the responsibility and trouble of taxation. Naturally, these irresponsible employees of duty-collecting syndicates "squeeze" and work their sweat will on their victims, the small producers and tradesmen, and only a moiety of their collections goes to their employers. Hence the very people—the masses of their Majesty's subjects—whom the Emperor desires to protect are the very ones to be over-ridden and oppressed. All this is due, in the Southern provinces at any rate, to the farming syndicates and they should therefore be abolished without delay. We understand that the matter has been referred by the Throne to the Ministry of Finance for report.—*N. C. D. News*.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The report of the Hongkong Branch of the China Association for 1906 to be presented to members at the annual general meeting of the Association on Saturday, the 5th inst., at 3.30 p.m., is as follows:—
In presenting to members the annual report of the Hongkong Branch of the China Association it has hitherto been the custom to publish in the form of an appendix the correspondence upon which it is based. The necessity for this in the present instance has been obviated by London branch issuing an interim report containing the principal letters despatched from here during 1906. The local committee has therefore decided to base this year's report upon that communication and a copy is now being forwarded to each member.
Our work as displayed in the contents will be seen to divide itself into four distinct series of letters and telegrams dealing with as many separate questions. These communications have been arranged in groups under the particular heading to which they refer and in chronological order within each group.
The first group comprises correspondence relating to the incident of the forcible seizure by the Viceroy of Canton of a quantity of coal in effective possession of a British Bank. Representations of the illegality of these proceedings, simultaneously made from several quarters, soon brought sufficient pressure to bear upon the Viceroy to persuade him of the inadvisability of persevering in an unwarrantable action and the matter was eventually settled to the satisfaction of the complainants. It is anticipated that the representations made from here on this subject will meet with the approval of members.
Similarly it is anticipated that the more voluminous correspondence referring to the Kowloon-Canton Railway will not be disapproved of. There has been but one opinion in the Association these many years as to the importance of pushing on with that enterprise. The thanks of the Committee are due and are hereby gratefully tendered to H. E. the Governor for placing at our disposal translations made originally from his information from articles appearing in the Chinese newspapers on the subject of the scheme to build an opposition line from Canton to Whampoa. Sir Matthew Nathan has kept a close watch upon the development of this idea and his helpful courtesy has enabled us, as will be seen from the correspondence, to supply the London branch with evidence supplementary to that which we derived independently from other sources showing the drift of native opinion and displaying the attitude of Provincial Authorities towards the scheme. It is dangerous to the future prosperity of Hongkong that the scheme of building a line from Canton to Whampoa should be carried out. It is a matter of great importance that the Association during the last two years but is now no longer thought to be threatening in view of the recent success attending the negotiations of the British and Chinese Corporation in Peking. A letter written subsequent to those appearing in the report in question records the Colony's satisfaction in respect of the signing of the final Agreement for the loan required to build the Chinese section of the line and expresses the hope that the supplementary agreement, necessary to ensure harmonious co-operation between the Colonial Government and the Provincial Officials in the working of the line as a whole, will soon follow.

WEST RIVER PIRACY.

As regards the Association's activities in directing attention to piracy on the West River the aim of attention has been to involve the aid of diplomacy in an endeavour to instil into the minds of the Provincial Authorities the idea that in the long run it is less inconvenient and more economical to provide funds requisite for the repression of the evil than to misappropriate these and chance the consequences. In some degree this object would appear to have been achieved. Recent information is to the effect that the Authorities are at the moment commendably active. They have supplied Admiral Li Chun, a capable leader, with a considerable number of "braves" and he is reported to be inflicting serious losses on the gangs of gunboat stationed every 3 miles and of armed launches, with steam up, stationed every 20 miles along the river bank. As far as the river is concerned these efforts are producing excellent results and in the Delta, also, there is said to be some improvement. These results support our contention that the suppression of piracy is merely a question of men and money. Not inconceivably, the new zeal displayed in this matter may have derived some impetus from the outcry made here.

I. M. CUSTOMS.

The same reflection occurs with regard to the agitation against the change made in the Administration of the Imperial Maritime Customs by the Edict of the 5th May. Bad as the question is, there can hardly be any doubt that it would have been far worse but for the vigour of the representations made at the English Press, especially in *The Times*, and by the London Branch of the Association against the adoption on the part of the British Government of a non-*postsumus* policy. These representations, with the resulting diplomatic protests, can hardly have failed to produce a certain restraining effect upon the minds of the leaders of the Young China Party in Peking and, although so far ostensibly failed, may yet be regarded as having attained a measure of unseen success.

CONTRACT LABOUR AND BRITISH SHIPPING.

In the last division of the Hongkong section of the Report will be found a record of representations made on the subject of the disabilities imposed upon British Shipping by certain Ordinances forbidding owners to carry contract labourers. The reasons advanced from here in support of a movement to obtain the repeal of these Ordinances will, it is hoped, recommend themselves to members.
Other subjects have engaged attention and a regular correspondence has been maintained by way of keeping the London Committee in touch with local opinion. The entire correspondence of the year will be laid on the table for the inspection of members at the Annual General Meeting.
The Annual General Meeting has been usually called in the Autumn but this year it was decided to hold it at the end of the year, the idea being that it is a more satisfactory arrangement to adopt the natural divisions of the Calendar than to follow the old method by which the year was made to overlap. However, this is an unimportant matter. It will be a still better arrangement if the London Branch decides to issue an Interim Report every year on the eve of the Annual Dinner, thus relieving the Branch, as in the present occasion it stands relieved, of any necessity to publish. The corporate nature of the Association is best indicated and served by reports bringing together and displaying in unity the work of the various Branches.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

A statement of accounts is appended showing a credit balance of \$2,290. The disposition of our funds due in the main, to long telegrams to the Customs question, will not be grudging by members who share the Committee's view that its solution is a matter more vital and far-reaching, in interest and importance, to trade in general and British trade in particular, than any other question.

THE "SAINAM" PIRACY.

THE GOVERNMENT AND SHIPOWERS' CLAIMS.

The following letter, in which are embodied the views of the Committee of the China Association on the subject of the owners' claim for consequential damages, will, it is hoped, prove of interest to members. In any case it is deemed to be desirable to let them know what has been done in the matter.
20th November, 1906.
Dear Sir,—The following telegraphic message was despatched to you on the 16th instant:—
"With reference to British Government's refusal support owners' claim for consequential losses *Sainam* piracy urge Foreign Office not to commit themselves to this attitude with the Chinese Government pending further representation from here by mail."
The decision of His Majesty's Government not to recognize the claim was conveyed to the owners of the *Sainam* through H.M.B. Consul General at Canton in a letter from him dated November 6th. No reasons were given for this decision. There was no hint that exception had been taken to the amount of the claim; no suggestion to indicate that a smaller one would have received greater consideration; the letter contained merely a brief intimation that the claim could not be supported. But from a rider stating that for any out-of-pocket expenses actually incurred the Government would be responsible, reasonable inference may be drawn that any other kind of claim is regarded as unreasonable. The owners have appealed to us for assistance in rebutting this new view of an old problem. If it is about to be adopted by His Majesty's Government there will be very general rejoicing among the rule of all semi-civilized and turbulent peoples and very serious doubts entertained as to the wisdom of it among those who have interests at stake among them. Hitherto the infliction of fines and penalties upon delinquent rulers of such peoples, as consequential damages done by disorders in which the subjects of civilized nations have suffered, has been regarded as a legitimate weapon to use in the fight for the establishment of law and order in the world—the fight between civilization and barbarism—the fight in which England is supposed to be taking a leading part. If there are to be no more indemnities there will be many more disorders and especially will this be the result in South China. In this opinion the members of my Committee are unanimous and at a meeting held to discuss the matter it was decided to represent the case to you again.

In the original instance your support was invited because it appeared to be a matter of importance that the Provincial Officials, who, we presumed, would in the last resort be called upon to meet the claim, might thus be made to realise an inconvenience to themselves in tolerating a continuance of the existing state of lawlessness under which outrages similar to that perpetrated upon the *Sainam* are liable to occur. Our opinion was and is that only through the agency of pecuniary punishment can they be made to feel any unpleasant consequences of that parasitic policy which is at the root of the evil. They may employ what might be called "the carrot and the stick" to induce some excessive. We are so. But we pointed out the necessity of bearing in mind the fact that for the best part of ten years the steamers companies have been driven by the difficulties of the situation to carry on a losing fight for a footing in the slowly developing West River trade. The capital actually expended in pioneering this trade amounts to a million dollars or more. No return upon this sum has been received during the pioneering period but the prospects were gradually improving; people were beginning to appreciate the advantages offered by the service, and profits were being made when the enterprise was suddenly blasted by this curse of unrestrained piracy, or highway robbery, or whatever the Consul boys elect to call it. In so far as there was formerly a belief in the efficacy of the protection afforded by the British flag the British companies are now worse off than ever—their chief advantage over native competitors having been largely swept away. The theory of the claim is that prospects anterior to the *Sainam* outrage have been thrown back so badly that it will take three years to repair the losses and another three years to get the business back to its normal state. The total capital sunk and working out the interest at 8 per cent for the first year, 6 per cent for the second, and 3 per cent for the third. These rates of interest may have seemed rather high to minds accustomed to the lower ones ruling in Europe but it should be pointed out that 8 per cent is the rate ruling in this Colony, as evidenced by the fact that judgment debt carry it.

In our view the amount of actual out-of-pocket expenses is no measure of the harm done to the owners and we submit that the set back to their trade is as much a proper subject of compensation as money expended in replacing material damages. On the whole therefore we incline to the opinion that, admitting the plea of consequential losses, a fairly good case could be made out for the amount of the claim put forward. At the same time we are prepared to admit that a contention in favour of its reduction might reasonably be set up.
Our main concern however is not with the amount of the claim nor with the description of the claim nor with the disposal of the claim. Our main concern is to urge upon you the desirability of persuading the Government to set at a claim of some sort, over and above the amount which they have so far admitted to be reasonable, is both reasonable and necessary. Let the amount be assessed at anything they please: let it be described either as consequential or as exemplary damages or simply as an indemnity and let the Foreign Office do with it as they will in accordance with the suggestion now made by the owners, in the letter enclosed. These are mere details. Our sole desire is to vindicate the principle of exacting exemplary damages for the non-fulfilment of treaty obligations, by retaining to support some claim in the present instance. The Foreign Office would provide the Chinese with a precedent dangerous in the extreme, because seemingly based upon the assumption that the flag can be grossly violated without any loss to the Government directly responsible, other than that entailed by being called upon

any with which the Association has yet been called upon to deal. It is now proposed to collect the usual yearly subscription of \$10 to carry on the work during 1907. A list of members is appended.
Since the last annual general meeting there have been several changes in the personnel of the local Committee. The new committee consists of: Mr. A. G. Wood, Mr. D. R. Law, Mr. H. E. Toynkin, Mr. C. H. McWhann, the Hon. Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. W. A. Crickbank and Mr. M. Stewart, chairman.

THE "SAINAM" PIRACY.

THE GOVERNMENT AND SHIPOWERS' CLAIMS.

The following letter, in which are embodied the views of the Committee of the China Association on the subject of the owners' claim for consequential damages, will, it is hoped, prove of interest to members. In any case it is deemed to be desirable to let them know what has been done in the matter.
20th November, 1906.
Dear Sir,—The following telegraphic message was despatched to you on the 16th instant:—
"With reference to British Government's refusal support owners' claim for consequential losses *Sainam* piracy urge Foreign Office not to commit themselves to this attitude with the Chinese Government pending further representation from here by mail."
The decision of His Majesty's Government not to recognize the claim was conveyed to the owners of the *Sainam* through H.M.B. Consul General at Canton in a letter from him dated November 6th. No reasons were given for this decision. There was no hint that exception had been taken to the amount of the claim; no suggestion to indicate that a smaller one would have received greater consideration; the letter contained merely a brief intimation that the claim could not be supported. But from a rider stating that for any out-of-pocket expenses actually incurred the Government would be responsible, reasonable inference may be drawn that any other kind of claim is regarded as unreasonable. The owners have appealed to us for assistance in rebutting this new view of an old problem. If it is about to be adopted by His Majesty's Government there will be very general rejoicing among the rule of all semi-civilized and turbulent peoples and very serious doubts entertained as to the wisdom of it among those who have interests at stake among them. Hitherto the infliction of fines and penalties upon delinquent rulers of such peoples, as consequential damages done by disorders in which the subjects of civilized nations have suffered, has been regarded as a legitimate weapon to use in the fight for the establishment of law and order in the world—the fight between civilization and barbarism—the fight in which England is supposed to be taking a leading part. If there are to be no more indemnities there will be many more disorders and especially will this be the result in South China. In this opinion the members of my Committee are unanimous and at a meeting held to discuss the matter it was decided to represent the case to you again.
In the original instance your support was invited because it appeared to be a matter of importance that the Provincial Officials, who, we presumed, would in the last resort be called upon to meet the claim, might thus be made to realise an inconvenience to themselves in tolerating a continuance of the existing state of lawlessness under which outrages similar to that perpetrated upon the *Sainam* are liable to occur. Our opinion was and is that only through the agency of pecuniary punishment can they be made to feel any unpleasant consequences of that parasitic policy which is at the root of the evil. They may employ what might be called "the carrot and the stick" to induce some excessive. We are so. But we pointed out the necessity of bearing in mind the fact that for the best part of ten years the steamers companies have been driven by the difficulties of the situation to carry on a losing fight for a footing in the slowly developing West River trade. The capital actually expended in pioneering this trade amounts to a million dollars or more. No return upon this sum has been received during the pioneering period but the prospects were gradually improving; people were beginning to appreciate the advantages offered by the service, and profits were being made when the enterprise was suddenly blasted by this curse of unrestrained piracy, or highway robbery, or whatever the Consul boys elect to call it. In so far as there was formerly a belief in the efficacy of the protection afforded by the British flag the British companies are now worse off than ever—their chief advantage over native competitors having been largely swept away. The theory of the claim is that prospects anterior to the *Sainam* outrage have been thrown back so badly that it will take three years to repair the losses and another three years to get the business back to its normal state. The total capital sunk and working out the interest at 8 per cent for the first year, 6 per cent for the second, and 3 per cent for the third. These rates of interest may have seemed rather high to minds accustomed to the lower ones ruling in Europe but it should be pointed out that 8 per cent is the rate ruling in this Colony, as evidenced by the fact that judgment debt carry it.
In our view the amount of actual out-of-pocket expenses is no measure of the harm done to the owners and we submit that the set back to their trade is as much a proper subject of compensation as money expended in replacing material damages. On the whole therefore we incline to the opinion that, admitting the plea of consequential losses, a fairly good case could be made out for the amount of the claim put forward. At the same time we are prepared to admit that a contention in favour of its reduction might reasonably be set up.
Our main concern however is not with the amount of the claim nor with the description of the claim nor with the disposal of the claim. Our main concern is to urge upon you the desirability of persuading the Government to set at a claim of some sort, over and above the amount which they have so far admitted to be reasonable, is both reasonable and necessary. Let the amount be assessed at anything they please: let it be described either as consequential or as exemplary damages or simply as an indemnity and let the Foreign Office do with it as they will in accordance with the suggestion now made by the owners, in the letter enclosed. These are mere details. Our sole desire is to vindicate the principle of exacting exemplary damages for the non-fulfilment of treaty obligations, by retaining to support some claim in the present instance. The Foreign Office would provide the Chinese with a precedent dangerous in the extreme, because seemingly based upon the assumption that the flag can be grossly violated without any loss to the Government directly responsible, other than that entailed by being called upon

THE CLUB LUSITANO, LTD.
PETITION TO WIND UP.

In Original Jurisdiction this morning before the Chief Justice, the case of the petition of certain shareholders of the Lusitano Club, Ltd., to wind up, was called on, when Mr. W. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the petitioners, and Sir Henry Berkeley, instructed by Mr. P. W. Goldring, of Messrs. Goldring and Barlow, appeared for the opposing shareholders.

Mr. Slade applied to have the case adjourned to Chambers, which Sir Henry opposed, as he did not consider it a case for Chambers. Mr. Slade then applied that the case be adjourned sine die.

Sir Henry again opposed, as he saw no reason for such an adjournment; all parties were ready to go on, and as it was likely to be a very long case the sooner it was commenced the better.

His Honour then said he would take the case at 2 p.m. to-morrow.

4th inst.

In Original Jurisdiction this afternoon at the Supreme Court, before His Honour the Chief Justice, the case was heard in the matter of the Companies Ordinance, 1865, and in the matter of the Club Lusitano, Limited. There was a large attendance of members of the Portuguese community who watched the case with apparent considerable interest.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the petitioners (Messrs. A. G. Romano and J. L. Leiria, Counsel General, and Vice-Consul, respectively, for Portugal). Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. J. Scott Harrison, of Messrs. Evans and Harrison, appeared for some of the opposing shareholders, and Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. P. W. Goldring and Barlow, representing other opposing members.

The petition was as follows:—

To the Supreme Court of Hongkong.

The humble petition of Augustino Guilherme Romano, Vice-Consul-General in Hongkong for Portugal, and Joao Joaquim Leiria, also of Victoria, aforesaid, Vice-Consul in Hongkong for Portugal.

Respectfully sheweth as follows:—

1. The Club Lusitano Limited (hereinafter called the Company) was in the month of January, 1891, incorporated under the Companies Ordinance, 1865, as a Company limited by shares.

The registered office of the Company is at Victoria in this Colony.

2. The objects for which the Company was established are the promoting of social intercourse among the Portuguese community in Hongkong, the providing of recreation, amusement, board and lodging, and refreshments to members and their friends, the employment of the profits of the Company in creating a reserve fund to meet the deterioration of property and other requirements, and in giving a dividend or bonus to shareholders and other objects mentioned in the Memorandum of Association thereof.

3. The capital of the Company is \$18,000, divided into 360 shares of \$50 each. The whole of the said shares have been issued.

4. Your Petitioners, and have been since the incorporation of the Company and the allotment of shares therein, shareholders in the Company and together hold 116 shares therein, 60 of which are held by your Petitioner Joao Joaquim Leiria in a representative capacity.

5. Shortly after the incorporation of the Company the reserve fund mentioned in the Memorandum of Association was created and was added to year by year until in the year 1904 the said fund amounted to the sum of \$4,500, but in the following year it was found necessary to expend the whole of this sum in repairs and alterations to the premises of the Company, and at the present time there exists no reserve fund.

6. Some of the original shareholders of the Company are now dead and their shares are held by their respective legal personal representatives, and other shareholders are not now and never have been members of the Club Lusitano and others have ceased to be members of the said Club, and in consequence of this fact the Company was advised that liquidators could not be provided, and in effect sold by retail to the members of the said Club and their friends unless a Government license were obtained under Ordinance No. 8 of 1898, and, therefore, for a considerable time past no liquid refreshments have been provided in the said Club.

7. During the last three years there have been continual disputes between one body of the shareholders of the Company and members of the said Club and another body thereof, with the result that the said Club and its friends have ceased to frequent the said Club, and others have resigned their membership thereof, and recently attempts were made by those in authority in the said Club to exclude from membership certain other members thereof, of which attempts culminated in legal proceedings being taken in this Honourable Court by those members against the Company and its Directors.

8. The costs of the said legal proceedings have been ordered to be paid by the Company and its Directors, but the Company possesses no fund available for the purpose, and is not empowered by its Memorandum of Association to borrow money. Moreover, a large number of the shareholders in the Company object to the said costs being paid out of the assets of the Company.

9. In consequence of the disputes aforesaid and of the facts set out in paragraph 7 hereof the monthly expenses of the Company have for some time past considerably exceeded the earnings thereof, and the Company has at the present time no means available for payment of debts due to various creditors.

10. Owing to the existing circumstances aetatefore related the objects of the Company as regards the promotion of social intercourse among the Portuguese Community cannot be carried into effect, and the carrying on of the business of the Company has become, in a practical sense, impossible.

11. Other shareholders in the Company who altogether hold 105 shares in the Company are together with your Petitioners desirous that the Company should be wound up, but such shareholders do not wish your Petitioners to represent a sufficient majority of the shareholders to enable them to pass a resolution to wind up the Company voluntarily.

12. Having considered all the circumstances it is just and equitable that the Company should be wound up by the Court.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray as follows:—

1. That the Club Lusitano Limited may be wound up by the Court under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance, 1865, and that for that purpose all necessary and proper directions may be given.

2. Or that such other order may be made in the premises as the Court shall deem meet.

THE ANSWER.

Henrique José Maria de Carvalho, a shareholder in the Club Lusitano and ex-honorary secretary of the last Board of Directors, filed the following answer to the petition for winding up.

Henrique José Maria de Carvalho, of No. 24 S. Alley Street, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, book-keeper to the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, of Queen's Buildings, Victoria, aforesaid, declared:

I am a shareholder in the Club Lusitano and am also a member of the Club Lusitano.

The Club Lusitano (as distinguished from the Club Lusitano Limited) is formed of members of the Portuguese Community some of whom are and some of whom are not shareholders in the Club Lusitano Limited.

I allude to the Club Lusitano Limited as "the said Society" and to the Club Lusitano as "the said Club."

I was formerly a Director of the said Society and held that position from July, 1898, to April, 1906.

I have read a copy of the petition for the winding up by the Court of the said Society, filed herein on the 10th day of December, 1906, by Augustino Guilherme Romano and Joao Joaquim Leiria, both of Victoria aforesaid.

The petitioners Augustino Guilherme Romano and Joao Joaquim Leiria in the said Society is no longer a member of the said Club.

The statement contained in paragraphs 1 to 4 of the said petition are to the best of my knowledge, information and belief correct.

With regard to the statement contained in paragraph 5 of the said petition I say that the petitioner now hold 116 shares, 60 of which are held by the said Joao Joaquim Leiria in a representative capacity.

As to the balance of the said 116 shares, namely, 56 shares, the Petitioner Augustino Guilherme Romano holds 9.

As to the remaining 47 shares (portion of the said 116 shares) the whole thereof are held by the Petitioner Joao Joaquim Leiria.

Of the last mentioned 47 shares, 31 shares were registered in the name of the said Joao Joaquim Leiria as recently as the 28th of November, 1906.

The Reserve Fund mentioned in paragraph 6 of the said petition was started in June, 1894, with a sum of \$1,000 and for the several half-yearly periods occurring since that date the said Reserve Fund has, according to the published accounts of the said Society, stood as follows:—

Date.	Amount in Reserve.
June 1894	\$1,000
December 1894	1,000
June 1895	1,000
December 1895	1,000
June 1896	1,000
December 1896	1,000
June 1897	1,000
December 1897	1,000
June 1898	1,000
December 1898	1,000
June 1899	1,500
December 1899	2,000
June 1900	2,000
December 1900	2,000
June 1901	3,500
December 1901	3,500
June 1902	4,000
December 1902	4,000
June 1903	4,500
December 1903	4,500
June 1904	4,500
December 1904	4,500

The statement contained in the said paragraph 6 of the said petition to the effect that in the year 1905 the said sum of \$1,500 (the then Reserve Fund of the said Society) was expended in the necessary repairs and alterations to the premises of the said Society is correct, but no part of the said repairs and alterations in question necessitated the expenditure of a further sum of \$3,200.88—which latter sum was paid out of the profits of the said Society during the years 1904 and 1905.

The said repairs and alterations were more or less of a permanent nature and consisted principally of the alteration of the whole of the ground floor and verandah of the first floor of the premises of the said Society; of the concreting of such floor with best English tiles; of the fitting up of a new lavatory; of the installation of electric lights and fans throughout the building, except in the quarters for boarding members; and of the construction of a movable stage with scenery, &c. for the benefit of the members of the Club.

With regard to the statements contained in paragraph 7 of the said petition I say that the sale of liquors by the said Society to the members of the said Club was not discontinued until the September, 1906, after judgment for costs had been delivered against the said Society and its directors in Action No. 156 of 1905 Original Jurisdiction.

With regard to the statements contained in paragraph 8 of the said petition I say that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief the only dispute which occurred during the period there mentioned was the dispute between certain members of the said Club and the Directors of the said Society which dispute formed the subject matter of Action No. 156 of 1905 instituted in this Honourable Court—to the file constituting the record in such action I respectfully crave leave to refer to as far as may be necessary.

With regard to the particular statement contained in the said paragraph 9 of the said petition to the effect that a number of the members of the said Club have ceased to frequent the Club and that others of said members have resigned their membership thereof, I say that the number of members of the said Club during the years 1903, 1904 and 1905 was approximately as follows:—

Year.	No. of Members.
1903	185
1904	181
1905	186

In this connection I would respectfully refer to the fact that in the year 1903 the monthly subscription payable by the members of the said Club was raised from \$2 to \$3 and that the entrance fee was raised from \$3 to \$5.

With regard to the statements contained in paragraph 9 of the said petition I say that at a general meeting of the shareholders of the said Society which was duly convened and held at the premises of the said Society, No. 20, Shelley Street, Victoria aforesaid, on the 22nd October, 1906, for the purpose of considering and deciding as to the best means of raising money to pay the costs referred to in the said paragraph 9 of the said petition, there were present 37 shareholders, including the Petitioner Joao Joaquim Leiria.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING WAS ACCORDINGLY DULY CONVENED AND HELD AT THE PREMISES OF THE SAID SOCIETY ON THE 10TH NOVEMBER, 1906.

At such extraordinary general meeting at which all five of the Directors of the said Society were present, a resolution authorising the said Directors to raise a sum not exceeding \$7,500 to pay off the said costs by borrowing from the Society's Bankers or by mortgage of the properties of the Society or otherwise on such terms as the Directors should think fit was passed without a single dissentient vote against it, though three of the Directors refrained from voting on such resolution.

No confirmatory meeting was called, but I am advised that it is doubtful whether any such confirmatory meeting was necessary and I leave to refer to the Articles of Association.

In answer to paragraphs 10 to 13 inclusive of the said petition I say that at the present time the value of the premises of the said Society, No. 20, Shelley Street, is certainly not less than \$35,000 whereas the capital of the said Society is \$18,000.

The said premises are free from incumbrances and I respectfully submit that if the scope and powers contained in the Memorandum of Association of the said Society were extended, sufficient money could easily be raised to pay and discharge the present indebtedness of the said Society.

In answer to paragraph 13 of the said petition I respectfully submit for the consideration of this Honourable Court that, having regard to all the facts, matters and circumstances hereinbefore mentioned or referred to, and especially having regard to the objects for which the said Society was formed as set forth in paragraph 3 of the said petition it is not just and equitable that the said Society should be wound up by the Court.

I am supported in my opposition to the said petition by 31 shareholders of the said Society holding 54 shares therein.

IN SUPPORT OF THE OPPOSITION.

The following affidavits were sworn to:—

Jose Luiz de Sclavina, lives of No. 10, Upper Mosque Terrace, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong; Broker, said:

I am a shareholder in the Club Lusitano Limited and also a member of the Club Lusitano which Club is situated at No. 20, Shelley Street, Victoria, aforesaid.

The Club Lusitano Limited is a Society incorporated under the Companies Ordinance of Hongkong No. 1 of 1895 and registered on the 1st of January, 1895.

The Club Lusitano (as distinguished from the Club Lusitano Limited) is formed of Members of the Portuguese Community some of whom are and some of whom are not shareholders in the Club Lusitano Limited.

In this affidavit I allude to the Club Lusitano Limited as "the said Society" and to the Club Lusitano as "the said Club."

I was formerly a Director of the said Society and for the space of about three years preceding and up to the month of April, 1906, I was President of the said Society.

The said Club as at present constituted is a successor of two Clubs each bearing the name "Club Lusitano," the first of which being a limited liability company was formed in or about the year 1866, and the second of which Clubs (being a private members' Club) was to the best of my recollection formed somewhere about the period 1870 to 1875.

The building, No. 20, Shelley Street, aforesaid, at present occupied by and belonging to the said Society is the same building as that which was formerly occupied by the two former Clubs.

I have been a Member of all the Clubs since the year 1866.

The present Club and its predecessors were formed to supply the social needs of the Portuguese Community in Hongkong.

The particular objects for which the said Society was formed are set forth in clause No. 1 of the Memorandum of Association of the said Society hereinbefore mentioned.

I have read a copy of the petition for the winding up by the Court of the said Society filed herein on the 10th day of December, 1906, by Augustino Guilherme Romano and Joao Joaquim Leiria both of Victoria aforesaid.

I have also read the affidavit of Henrique José Maria de Carvalho filed in this matter on the 10th day of December, 1906, in opposition to the said petition for the winding up of the said Society and I incorporate the statements therein by the said Henrique José Maria de Carvalho in paragraphs 3 to 12 inclusive of his said Affidavit.

NOTHER AFFIDAVIT.

Alfredo Maria Rosa Pereira, of No. 1, Duddell Street, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, General Broker, said:

In this affidavit I allude to the above-named Club Lusitano, Limited, as "the said Company" and to the Lusitano Club as "the said Club."

I am a shareholder in the said Company and Secretary and a Director of the said Company. I am also a member of the said Club.

In opposing the petition for the winding up by the Court of the said Company filed by Augustino Guilherme Romano and Joao Joaquim Leiria, a copy of which I have read, I am supported by 36 shareholders of the said Company holding 36 shares in all, four of whom are not now, but have been members of the said Club. I myself hold six shares in the said Company.

Only nine of the 26 shareholders who are supporting the petitioners are members of the said Club.

As a matter of fact, one of the Petitioners, Augustino Guilherme Romano is not himself a member of the Club.

With reference to paragraph 8 of the said petition I am able to state from having been a member of the said Club for several years past, that during the last three years there have been no disputes between one body of the shareholders of the said Club and another body thereof other than the disputes which form the subject matter of O. J. No. 156 of 1905.

OF PARLIAMENT PASSED IN PORTUGAL AND EXTENDING TO MACAO.

The aforesaid conduct of the said Directors and members being considered and so stated by the Petitioner Augustino Guilherme Romano as the representative in this Colony of His Majesty the King of Portugal, he resigned the position which he had theretofore held as Chairman of the said Club, and was subsequently called upon by those in authority in the said Club at the desire of a large number of the members to resign his membership thereof.

In consequence of the aforesaid exclusion from the said Club of the leading representative of the Portuguese community in this Colony, the status of the said Club has considerably declined and the said Club has ceased to be regarded as an institution to which Portuguese officials and distinguished persons of Portuguese nationality visiting this Colony should be invited and where such persons should be entertained.

I verily believe that since, and as a result of, the circumstances hereinbefore related, the status of the said Club has considerably declined and the said Club has ceased to be regarded as an institution to which Portuguese officials and distinguished persons of Portuguese nationality visiting this Colony should be invited and where such persons should be entertained.

COUNSEL'S OPENING STATEMENT.

Mr. Slade, in opening, said the facts were extremely simple. The Company was formed several years ago, or about 1892, to carry on the Club Lusitano. The objects of the Company were set out in the memorandum of association, and stated that the objects were to promote and to encourage social intercourse between the members of the Portuguese Community. Last autumn a judgment with costs was given against the Club. Later it was brought home to the managers that they were contravening the law by supplying refreshments to all, as the Company and the Club were two different institutions, and members of the Club were not necessarily shareholders in the Company, and vice versa. Accordingly the bar was closed, and the case closed, and the out-goings exceeded the in-comings, and in consequence the Club was carried on at a loss.

Is Honour: You mean the bar?—

Mr. Slade: No, my Lord, the Club generally. Continuing, Mr. Slade said that under the Articles of Association there was no power to borrow, and in consequence, though the Club was possessed of considerable unencumbered property, they were unable to raise money to pay their debts.

Mr. Slade: A mortgage or sale?—

Mr. Slade: There is no power to borrow. Continuing, Mr. Slade said that this Company was not a mercantile company, nor a trade, but purely a Society for social reasons. Even if the Company were in a position to borrow the only result would be that in the course of months, or years, the whole of the property and profits would be eaten up, and the Club would cease to exist, by reason of their having no money to carry it on. Under these circumstances that those objects having 22 out of 30 shares are applying to wind up the Company, that is two-thirds of the shares.

Mr. Slade: Thirty-one of the majority of the shares were acquired within the last months, and therefore cannot count. There must be two-thirds of the shareholders of more standing.

Mr. Slade said that the object of the winding up was not to wreck the concern, but to enable it to be resuscitated on firmer lines. The Club as at present constituted is full of dissensions among the members, and consequently a substantial body of the Portuguese community will have nothing to do with the Club.

Mr. Slade and Hon. Mr. Pollock objected to this statement.

Mr. Slade: The Club has gone so far as to expel Mr. A. G. Romano, the Consul-General for Portugal.

Mr. Henry: Oh, no, they did not—they did nothing of the kind.

Mr. Slade: They requested him to resign, which amounted to expelling him.

Mr. Henry: No, it did not, and that was four years ago, and has nothing to do with the matter.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: That is quite beside the question.

Mr. Slade then proceeded to read the petition, and answer of Mr. H. J. M. de Carvalho against the winding up of the Club. Alluding to the affidavit, Counsel referred to the liabilities incurred during the period when Mr. Slade was President of the Club, and that the liabilities were incurred and discharged. Reference was also made by Counsel to the number of members on the rolls of the Club, and it was remarked by Sir Henry that, during the period 1903-1905, the subscription had actually been raised.

Proceeding, Mr. Slade remarked that the real trouble is that the Club cannot be continued on the present lines; it wanted to be remodelled on the lines of the Hongkong Club. The question of the spirit licence was then alluded to, when it was observed that the Club required \$1,400 a year, or some \$200 per member, to defray the cost of the licence.

Continuing his address, Counsel contended that undeniably the Company possessed substantial assets, but it was in the position of being commercially insolvent since under the Companies Ordinance no power was possessed by the Company to realise its assets unless by winding up. There would, however, be no realisation of the assets by reason of winding up.

In voting powers they were equal with the opposition by reason of the fact that their powers were more widely distributed. They (the petitioners) had shareholders holding 211 shares.

Sir Henry: They are 58 in person and we 59.

Mr. Slade—he consequence is the voting power of both sides being equal, no special resolution can be carried in his opening remark, stated that the petition was not, he regretted to say, a petition presented in good faith. It was not presented for the benefit of that ancient institution—the Lusitano Club. He suggested that the application was prompted by Mr. Leiria's further pecuniary interest. The company was formed not to put money in the pockets of any individual person at all. If his Lordship intended to wind up the Club, the result would be that Leiria would have a lot of money put into his pocket, and if Mr. Romano had any feeling of revenge at all he would have his feelings gratified. It would be seen whether it was in the true interests of the Portuguese Community that they should lose their place of recreation by the Court exercising the power of winding up. Counsel for the petitioners had emphasized the fact that the Club had suffered by Romano's retirement from the Club.

Mr. Henry contended that the fact of Mr. Romano's leaving had not had any disastrous effect. He submitted that because that gentleman had been expelled from the Club, some of the members might consider the Club was no longer the fashionable institution that it was. Mr. Romano's retirement was no diminution in the membership for the past three years. The slight falling off of six members in 1903 was not due to Mr. Romano's retirement, but it was due to the subscription and entrance fees being raised. Then, in the following year, up the members were again. It could not be maintained that the members to-day were of any lower social grade than they were when Mr. Romano belonged to the Club. They were members of the Club. They were members of the Portuguese community, they

were more or less of the same social grade; and they were the same as they were before. Mr. Leiria was still a member of the Club and he (Counsel) did not think that Mr. Leiria's social grade to-day was any different; it is the same as before. Mr. Romano left the Club. There was no suggestion that the Portuguese community were of any less social grade than when Mr. Romano was in the Club. If it was decided to wind up the Company where were the members going to—were they going to public-houses of an evening or were they to lie on their verandahs in the afternoons? Sir Henry inquired: Why this drastic measure, the result of which would be to put money into the pocket of Mr. Leiria? The Club had been in existence for forty years. It was a great boon to the Portuguese community. He thought it should have been more patriotic if Mr. Leiria had come forward and contributed a portion of the expenditure to maintain that ancient institution. The original idea was not to pay dividends. It was a patriotic institution for the benefit of the Portuguese community. It was not a commercial undertaking. Bearing that in mind it was not the wish of the majority of the Club to wind up. The club had large assets. The property only was represented at \$18,000. They had the assets and had not realised them.

Sir Henry then proceeded to quote authorities showing that, because certain debts had not been paid by a Company, it could not be continued. He said that it was insolvent. Continuing his remarks, Sir Henry said it was absolutely out of all reason to smash up an old institution for the sake of a small debt. It is all very well for them to talk about breaking up the Club and resuscitating it on better lines.

His Honour: I should suggest on more friendly lines.

Sir Henry: Yes, Your Lordship should dismiss this petition and let them go and shake hands and make it up and be friends.

His Honour: But it does not appear that they are desirous of that.

Sir Henry: Oh, yes; they are, my Lord.

His Honour: Whom are you for?—

Sir Henry: We are the original members whose "soda water" was over-charged.

His Honour: But the point is this; you ask me to dismiss this petition to enable you to do something which for the past four months you have not attempted to do.

Sir Henry: We have not had time, my Lord. Mr. Leiria, instead of throwing oil on troubled waters, comes here and asks to have the only resort for the young men of the Portuguese community to be wound up. Where then would he have them go for their social recreations and their soda-water? To the hotels and other resorts? This petition should be dismissed to give them a chance to settle the matter amongst themselves. If they cannot do that they can come back here again, and petition your Lordship again. The object of the Club was to perpetuate the old institution.

His Honour: They will not perpetuate it if they go on squabbling.

Sir Henry: No, my Lord, they have had a lesson, and they will not squabble again.

Sir Henry, continuing his remarks, said that the petitioners had no right to come to this Court until the parties had been given an opportunity of settling the dispute amongst themselves. This is a shareholders' petition, in a concern which was governed by its own members, and all the authorities he could produce showed that the Court was always reluctant to interfere in cases of shareholders. The price of the refreshments was raised to meet certain increased expenses in running the club and because there was a slight increase in the price of the soda-water a number of young gentlemen came into Court, and your Lordship will remember that they obtained judgment and costs.

His Honour: I still do not see why they did not obtain a licence. Perhaps they had not the money?—

Sir Henry: Oh, but they have! No doubt they should have got a licence, but that is not the point here. They made a great point of the fact that the Club had gone down since Mr. Romano had left it, but he did not see why. Was Mr. Romano's leaving the Club any reason for the Club going down? If my learned friend will admit that Mr. Leiria is the son-in-law of Mr. Romano—

Sir Henry: Ah! he is closer—he is a blood relation. This is a petition brought by Uncle and nephew, and is not filed in good faith. Mr. Leiria holds about 108 shares of the majority, and I suggest this petition is brought to take advantage of the disputes now going on. Mr. Leiria is desirous of realizing the valuable property he has invested in the Club. Whether it is from feelings of revenge, or whether it is to obtain a large sum of money in his pocket we do not know, but we suggest that it is not brought in good faith, and the Court is satisfied of that then the petition must be dismissed.

His Honour: I know a good deal about this Club, and I do not think that I ought to hear this petition.

Sir Henry: We don't mind that; indeed, perhaps, it may be an advantage.

After considerable authorities had been quoted the remark was made as to the party responsible for the present strained position.

His Honour remarked:—One side is just as bad as the other.

Sir Henry: We say as we belong to neither we are better than each.

Counsel, after addressing the Court for an hour and a half, asked the Judge to dismiss the petition and send the parties back to their own quarrels and settle the matter by themselves.

At 4.25 p.m., Hon. Mr. Pollock rose to address the Court when his Lordship inquired how long Mr. Pollock would take to make his address. Upon being informed that his speech would probably occupy an hour to an hour-and-a-half, his Honour stated that considering the lateness of the hour, he would adjourn the Court to 11 a.m. to-morrow.

The Court then rose.

5th inst.

In Original Jurisdiction this morning, before His Honour the Chief Justice, the matter of the petition for leave to wind up the Lusitano Club, Ltd., adjourned from yesterday, was resumed. Counsel for the several parties appearing as before.

The Court-room was again crowded with a representative gathering of the Portuguese community who followed the proceedings with the keenest interest.

On taking his seat His Honour the Chief Justice, addressing Hon. Mr. Pollock, said that it might be convenient if he gave him a suggestion starting, before he opened his address. Counsel said he was subject to anything that Mr. Slade might have to say, but he did not think that under any circumstances he would dismiss the petition, but he was ready to adjourn the matter for four months, if that was agreeable, as that would give them time to examine the books, and, if they desired it, to prepare new Articles of Association.

HON. MR. POLLOCK'S ADDRESS.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: As to Mr. Leiria's affidavit which was filed yesterday morning we have not had time to reply. His reference to the Naval and Military officers practically boycotting the Club altogether is not so. As a matter of fact the officers of two of the largest Portuguese warships that were in port in 1903 and 1904 attended the Club—the officers both senior and junior of the Vasco da Gama and the Alcantara; and the commander of the gunboat often spent his evenings in the Club playing bridge. I don't know that this will have any actual bearing to influence your Lordship, but it is well to mention the point in reference to Mr. Leiria's affidavit. Mr. Pollock (then referring to Mr. C. D. Wilkinson and Grist) said which was an important one and which had not been read by Mr. Slade yesterday. Continuing, Mr. Pollock said, I wish to point out that of the 28 clients of my learned friend (Mr. Slade) only ten are members of the Club. That is an important point that I think your Lordship will take into consideration. In other words, my Lord, roughly speaking, only one-third of my friends class as members of the Club and uninterested in the continuance of the Club. I think that is an important one and one which, I have no doubt, your Lordship will note.

His Lordship: You say there are 41 shareholders who stand by.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: There are 41. Continuing to read from Mr. Pereira's affidavit, Counsel pointed out that of the 37 members he represented there are no less than 35 members of the Club as well as shareholders in the Company.

Mr. Slade: If my learned friend will allow me to interrupt for a moment, I would like to say here that I am instructed by the directors, through their solicitors, to state that they are of opinion that a winding up order should be made, but they neither supported nor opposed this application, leaving it entirely in the hands of the Court. Therefore the statement that had been made that 41 members were neutral was untrue in this modern sense.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: There is a way out of the present pecuniary difficulties. I wish to bring an important point to your Lordship's notice. This Company and any Company—whether commercial or otherwise—has power to sell or charge its property, or any part of such property, in order to save it from execution. Continuing, Mr. Pollock argued that all companies had the power to sell or charge its property for the purpose of raising money to pay its debts, when it was necessary to do so, from being seized in execution, and then he proceeded to quote authorities in support of his argument. It was a very common sense proposition. Instead of waiting for the bailiffs to come in and seize the property, it was more reasonable to raise the money on the property and so save the execution in case of a judgment against the Company. Learned Counsel continued to quote, at some considerable length, further authorities to the same effect, all of which are recent cases. What was the use of the Company standing by while the property, furniture, etc. of the Club was sold up to pay their debts, when it could be prevented by the Company charging its property.

His Honour: But they don't seem to have come to that point.

Mr. Pollock: I will establish my facts as I proceed, my Lord, and I will show from the authorities that the Court has a right to order a meeting of the shareholders to raise money to pay off the debt. But no meeting was necessary, as the Directors, by article 60 of the Articles of Association, had power conferred on them to do all things for the benefit of the Club, and the construction of this article was that directors were enabled to charge the property for the benefit of the Club. That meant that the directors might do what a meeting of the shareholders could do. The directors have the power under the article to borrow, and the authorities quoted substantiated that point, for they laid down that the powers conferred on the directors included the power to borrow. An important point is that a company cannot be considered insolvent if it possesses legal means of liquidating its debts, and it is within the power of the directors to do all things that do not contravene the Articles of Association. Here is no question of insolvency, for the directors have the power of selling most of the assets of the Club, Mr. Pollock next quoted a case as to the test of insolvency and read his authority. He referred to the petitioners' statement as to the expenses of the Company having for some time exceeded its income. There were no figures to support that statement, and they were very much in the dark what the income and expenditure had been. It stands to common sense that a company can be considered insolvent when the directors had the power of selling the assets of the Club, and the means of liquidating the debts of that company. If they had the power to institute, prosecute, compromise any matters of litigation on behalf of the company, it necessarily implied that they had the power to raise funds on the property to liquidate debts. The article was for the indemnification of the directors, so that they might be protected.

His Honour: But in the litigation they tried to get costs against the directors personally. Mr. Pollock: I thought your Lordship made the order against them personally.

His Honour: No, I did not make that order.

Mr. Pollock: Well, that is of no matter now. Mr. Slade: The application was based on the argument that the action of the directors, having been ultra vires they ought to be made to pay the costs personally. I merely mention it for what it is worth.

Mr. Pollock: Well, of course, that is no moment now; it is evident that the directors were intended to be indemnified in what they did in good faith on behalf of the Club. The next point that Mr. Pollock submitted to his Lordship was to get out of the difficulty of the liquor licence. He thought there was a very simple way out of that difficulty. There could be as at home a trust fund for the bar with a manager to administer that fund. He then proceeded to quote authorities in support of his contention. That was a simple statement.

His Lordship: That was one of the things I suggested in the postponement that the difficulty might be arranged that way.

Mr. Pollock then resumed the argument on the lines of the right and authority of the Club to sell intoxicating liquors for consumption both on and off the premises, and after quoting authorities at considerable length, learned Counsel said that the Club had shown right. He then touched upon the point whether it was "just and equitable" that the Company should be wound up. It had been decided that when the prohibition of a business, or company was gone all they had to do was to wind up. Probably also in the case when it became impossible to carry on the business of the Company. Counsel held that there was nothing to show how the business of the Club was carried on in the case of the Club. There was absolutely no proof that a winding up was desirable. In order to suggest a scheme of arrangement, even if there were any evidence in support of such winding up there was nothing in support of that in the petition. A winding up order was to be refused if there was no sufficient evidence to support it. A winding up.

His Lordship: Supposing that the liquor licence was more costly than they are, don't you know that it is not "just and equitable" to wind up.

Mr. Pollock: Yes, of course, you can address me now.

Hon. Mr. Pollock—There is nothing too acute so long as the members act in the best interests of the Club.

His Lordship—One of the original objects of the Club was the provision of social enjoyment. When it has ceased to afford social enjoyment the object of the Club has ceased to exist.

Hon. Mr. Pollock—It will point out that social enjoyment. As a matter of fact, the Club is fulfilling its objects as stated by Mr. Pereira in his affidavit, which says: "I verily believe from inquiries made by me among the general body of the members of the Portuguese community in this Colony, that a large majority of such community desire that the said Company should continue, inasmuch as the said Club performs important social functions in this Colony, such as giving balls and concerts and theatrical entertainments to the Portuguese community in this Colony and Macao, and is affiliated with the 'Gremio Militar' i.e., the Portuguese Army and Navy Club in Macao."

His Lordship—That is a matter of evidence.

Hon. Mr. Pollock—Mr. Leira naturally espouses the cause of his uncle. Mr. Leira's second affidavit is important. He said that since 1902 there has been trouble. An event of 1903 is rather old, but the Lordship brought up for your title—very acutely.

—*stands in the Club.* As regards the petition for winding up, he continued, it was not competent for his learned friend to come to the Court and address his Lordship as a jurymen, say that there were many disputes that the Club ought to be wound up, and then ask for an order of the Court to permit it. The petitioners have not made any case. They cannot bring forward any authority in support of their application. Why should the other side—come forward with the figures of the Club? There had been some falling off in the number of members recently; but, argued Mr. Pollock, that might be due to the recent trouble. For three years previously the numbers remained practically stationary in spite of the raising of the entrance fees and subscriptions. To allow ten members to enforce their views upon the majority would be unreasonable.

He alluded to the fact that since the unfortunate typhoon of 18th September a concert had been given at the Club in aid of the typhoon relief fund and realised several hundred dollars. The concert served a very useful purpose and went to show that there was considerable activity in the Club.

Mr. Slade here said he wished to refer to the latest fact introduced by his learned friend and remarked that, as regards the concert given for the typhoon relief fund, as showing Mr. Romano had no feelings against the Club, he contributed \$100 to the fund and induced others to contribute. The concert, he said, was non-political as well as members. This showed that there was no hostility on the part of Mr. Romano. Practically all members of the Portuguese community contributed to the fund.

Hon. Mr. Pollock—That is another reason why a bridge might be constructed and is another reason also against winding up.

Continuing his argument, Mr. Pollock said that all the authorities quoted held that a creditor could come forward and demand the winding up of a company, if he could not otherwise get his claim paid, but where the company was found to be in a position to pay its debts, it could not be considered insolvent and the Court had no power to make an order for its winding up. As regards the shareholders, they passed a resolution that \$2,500 should be raised to pay off the costs of the recent litigation. The petitioners seemed to be putting the Court in a position in which it ought not to be put, as it was not for the Court to pronounce whether the concern was a profitable or unprofitable speculation, on any given day, but whether the Court had—certainly the petitioners had not proved that with reasonable care and good management the financial condition of the Club should not be most satisfactory.

His Honour: Sir Henry asked me yesterday to believe that the bar would pay tenfold, when it had a licence.

Hon. Mr. Pollock: Yes, my Lord, and with ordinary care the Club can easily show the same good results as in 1903 and 1904. The petitioners have shown nothing against this. They themselves are raising all the fuss and trouble, and simply because they have done so, and there are dissensions in the Club is no reason why they should come here and ask that the Club be wound up. It is unreasonable, as they cannot ask the Court to wind up a concern without good and sufficient reasons. None have been shown here, and it is unfortunate that Mr. Romano's so-called expulsion should have been raked up, for it is a matter of ancient history, and for all these reasons I would ask that the petition be dismissed with costs.

Hon. Mr. Pollock concluded his able address, which was one hour and three-quarters duration at 12.45 p.m.

His Lordship then forthwith delivered his judgment.

THE JUDGMENT.

His Honour said that this matter was a petition filed by certain shareholders for an order to enable them to wind up the Club Lusitano, Ltd. The objects for which the Club had been instituted were set forth in the Memorandum of Association, and were for the social enjoyment, recreation, and entertainment of the members of the Portuguese community in this Colony. Allegations have been made that there are dissensions between the different bodies of members, and I know there are. It is also said that the profits of the Club have diminished, partly owing to those dissensions, and, unfortunately, when the dissensions arose it was discovered that the liquor licence law had been infringed. I think if all these matters in difference continue to exist, there is no doubt that in time the Club will come to an end. There has been a cleavage amongst the members. I will not refer here to the dispute about Mr. Romano or what has been said of his relation to the Club. The arrangement suggested by Mr. Pollock for the settlement of the debt referred to is very reasonable. I don't want to express any legal opinion, however, on the matter, as that is for the legal advisers of the directors to do. Mr. Pollock suggested a very ingenious manner in which to get over the liquor difficulty. I think the petition has a substratum of right. As I suggested at first there should be an adjournment, when some of these difficulties and differences may be got over. There should be, say, two months allowed in which to see whether the bar is paying or not, and whether it will be necessary to call for a strict examination of the books. I hope it will not be as if the bar is found not to be paying it will be necessary to call for the books. The further hearing of the petition is adjourned for four months. I can only say that I hope all these disputes and differences may be settled, as such a settlement cannot but be to the advantage and benefit of the Portuguese community.

It is stated that, owing to the new Opium Regulations recently enforced in Tientsin, over 4,000 opium dealers have had to close.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

THE LIENCHAU AFFAIR.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 28th December, 1906.

The case in connection with the Lienchau riot has already been satisfactorily settled. One of the conditions agreed to was that the temple, which is in the neighbourhood of the American Hospital, in which the disturbance originated, was to be transformed into a college; but apparently no steps have been taken to carry out this term of the arrangement. The other day the American Consul-General sent a despatch to the Viceroy, stating that the temple in question had not yet been changed. Into what it was stipulated to be, and asked H.E. to have it removed by some means, so that there may be no fear of a further recurrence of like disturbances in that locality. H.E. Chow has now instructed the Lienchau Maistrate, to go with the local gentry, to remove the temple at an early date.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIES.

H.E. the Viceroy will to-day make an inspection of the New Bund, the public garden, the Cement Works, and the Ironing Police Head Station. He will also pay a visit to the Government Paper factory at Yün Po.

U.S. CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 29th December, 1906.

The Canton Boycott Association has received a cablegram from the headquarters of the American Boycott Association at Oakland, Cal., U.S.A. The cable states that President Roosevelt has announced to Congress that the exclusion of the Chinese Exclusion Act will be discontinued, which means that the said Act will remain in force as formerly, so all the former exertions of the various associations will be wasted, if no immediate action is taken. The message also advises the people of the working class not to proceed to the isthmus of Panama, to work on the canal, and to communicate these facts to the public and the press. Upon receipt of the cablegram the Canton Boycott Association at once issued a circular calling a meeting of the Kowchow Hospital, on the 30th instant, to discuss the present state of affairs.

LIENCHAU COMPENSATION.

Yesterday, H.E. Viceroy Chow gave notice to the Sin Hui Kuei (Reorganisation Department), to get ready 25,000 taels, for the payment of the compensation in regard to the Lienchau affair.

A FOREIGNER FINED.

Yesterday, two foreigners went into a foreign goods store in Sappato, to purchase a cigarette holder. The cost of the holder was 30 cents, and one of the foreigners tendered a one-dollar note in payment. The shopkeeper returned the change in Canton notes and small coins, but the foreigner refused to accept these. After some argument, one of them took back the note, and at the same time pocketed the holder, and proceeded to leave the shop. The shopkeeper made protestations, but the foreigner not only refused to pay, but went so far as to break one of the shop's glass show cases. The police on duty arrested the foreigners, for trial when they were ordered to pay \$1.20 as damages to the shopkeeper, and to leave Canton.

AN ECONOMICAL VICEROY.

Formerly, H.E. the Viceroy had installed in his yamen several hundred electric incandescent lamps, which cost a monthly expenditure of 400 dollars gold. This H.E. considers to be too expensive, and has given orders to have the lamps removed and have put in their place incandescent gasoline lamps.

THE YUET-HAN RAILWAY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 1st January.

Yesterday H.E. Viceroy Chow deputed Provincial Treasurer Wu and Tsao' I am to proceed to the offices of the Yuet-Han Railway Company to examine the books, accounts, etc. of the company.

THE OPIUM EVIL.

The Provincial Treasurer has issued a proclamation by orders from H.E. the Viceroy, who has received instructions from the Central Government, ordering officials of all ranks, including employees of the different Customs, who have acquired the opium smoking habit, to get rid of this evil, within six months time.

POLICING OF CANTON.

In accordance with instructions received from the Board of Constabulary at Peking, H.E. Chow has directed Tantai Chiu Tsang Wai to make out a report showing which of the districts in the province are, and which are not, policed, for the police force is to be increased throughout the whole province, to put down the numerous cases of robbery, brigandage, piracy, etc. which are happening in all places.

ARMED ROBBERY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 2nd January.

A robbery was committed by four armed men who entered a fanian shop, at No. 10, Chung Sou Sun Street, in the Western Suburb, at six o'clock, on the evening of the 30th ult. The robbers decamped with \$320 in cash. The case has been reported to the Nanhai Magistrate, who went personally the next day to examine the scene of the outrage.

NEW STATIONERY DEPARTMENT.

H.E. the Viceroy has sanctioned the opening of a stationery and printing department in connection with the Government paper factory. The offices are situated at Po Shan Street. All stationery used in Government offices is issued from this office. Several printed forms are obtainable for the purpose of petitions, lottery tickets and pawn tickets, which are the only forms recognised by the Government.

TELEGRAPH APPOINTMENT.

H.E. the Viceroy has appointed Expectant Magistrate Fung Ping Chiu as Precinct of the Canton branch of the Imperial Telegraph Administration and the Canton Telephone Bureau.

BOYCOTT MEETINGS FORBIDDEN.

On receipt of letter from a certain firm in Shanghai asking him to stop the boycott meetings, which were to take place on the 2nd and 3rd instants, H.E. the Viceroy has given instructions to the Nanhai and Pun Yu Magistrates to stop at once the proposed meetings. H.E. stated that such action as boycott meetings will tend to cause a breach of harmonious relationship between the two nations concerned and that ex Vice-oy Tsung's order forbidding the American boycott should be taken as a precedent.

THE VICEROY ACTIVE.

H.E. Viceroy Chow will proceed to Yün Tung to inspect the new barracks on the 4th inst. He will also make a tour of inspection of the Boca Tigris and inspect the forts on the following day.

THREE SCORE YEARS AND TEN.

The 7th inst. being H.E. Chow's seventieth birthday, the Canton-Hankow Railway Company has prepared some gifts and will present them to him for the occasion.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 3rd January.

Two boycott meetings were arranged to take place on the 2nd and 3rd instants, respectively, but on the afternoon of the 2nd instants H.E. the Viceroy sent a deputy to the Canton Boycott Association, with orders to prohibit these meetings and on the same date the Association received despatches from the Kowchow Prefect and the Magistrates of Nanhai and Pun Yu to the same effect. Nevertheless, the first of these meetings was held on the appointed day and there were present over four hundred persons, less than a half of those attending the meeting of the 29th ult. The Viceroy in his proclamation stated that the Chinese Exclusion Act has been satisfactorily modified already, so the Association conjectured that the telegram received from the Chinese station pasted on the Association's notice, was a ploy to the Viceroy, requesting H.E. to point out to the public the modifications of this Exclusion Act, if he is aware of any. At the meeting no important discussion was raised and no important resolutions passed except the proposal to cable to the Chinese Boycott Association in Oakland, asking for more substantial information regarding the present state of affairs in connection with Chinese exclusion and to petition the Viceroy to state above.

A letter has been received by the authorities from Shanghai, stating that H.E. Viceroy Shun, the Viceroy designate of Yunnan and Kweichow Provinces, is still in Shanghai. He tendered in his resignation to the Throne, but the Throne refused to accept his resignation and ordered him to proceed to his new post as soon as possible. It is expected that he will leave Shanghai for Yunnan in the early part of the next second month.

To-morrow, the school sports in connection with the school and colleges of Canton will take place in the Esplanade Ground. The chief items of sport consist of foot races and other such like feats. The students of the Government established schools refused to compete this year, on account of the fact that they were treated unfairly in the sports held last year.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

CANTON-KOWLOON RAILWAY LOAN AGREEMENT.

Towards the middle of November the native press was able to announce the main provisions of the Loan Agreement for the Canton-Kowloon Railway, which had just been signed in Peking. After the lapse of three weeks it became evident that opposition to the contract was being engineered in certain quarters, and this came to a head when a number of Chinese merchants in Shanghai, as well as the new Viceroy Canton and some local gentry, addressed telegrams of protest against the railway scheme to the Ministry of Posts and Communications. At the time we expressed the hope that this irresponsible action on the part of the provincials would meet with the treatment it deserved at the hands of the Peking authorities, as it seemed incredible that the Central Government should allow its formal pledges to be nullified by a *post festum* agitation of this nature. From the telegram sent to Canton by H.E. Tsang Shao-yi, to which reference was made in our column yesterday, it would appear that this agitation has not been altogether unsuccessful, and there is reason to believe that, in spite of the ratification of the agreement in question on the understanding that it would immediately assume the force of law, by being embodied in an Edict, the Imperial sanction has been indefinitely delayed. Reading between the lines of H.E. Tsang's telegram we may infer that the opposition has taken a personal turn and that any weakness in the case against the actual terms of the agreement, being supplemented by an attack on the Government's representative on the alleged grounds of having made a bad bargain for China. In certain circumstances it is conceivable that a portion of the Empire acting upon the conviction that its own local interests were being sacrificed by the central authorities should seek to turn the Government from its decision. The Cantonese agitators, however, have no such justification in the present instance, as throughout the negotiations leading up to the agreement, which was of a most private nature, their representatives were present in Peking and expressed their approval of its terms. It can only be supposed, therefore, that underlying the agitation is some intrigue between the forces of reaction and progress, and that in the interests of Chinese "patriotism" the foreigner is expected to countenance the renunciation of China's formal pledges.

In order to have some justification for their opposition, the agitators would make out that the terms of the agreement are prejudicial to China's interests and give more to the foreign corporation concerned than to the Chinese State. The country's sovereign rights. For this statement there is absolutely no foundation as it is a matter of common knowledge, fully borne out by the summary of the Agreement already published in the native Press, that there has been no attempt on the part of the Corporation to carry through more than an ordinary commercial deal with the Chinese Government. The fact has never been lost sight of that the railway is a Chinese property, but that as H.E. Tang Shao-yi points out, owing to the confessed inability of the Chinese Government to raise the money for its construction, the Central Government has had recourse to outside help. To safeguard the advance of £1,500,000 necessary for the construction of the line the Corporation has naturally to satisfy itself that the money will be devoted solely to the purposes for which it is intended, so that there may be a commercial asset in the form of a railway in *esse* when the money has been expended. It would be well if the present agitation could be met by the publication of the full terms of the Agreement, for, as far as we are aware, the opposition to the scheme with the rest of the public have only the brief summary appearing in the Press upon which to base their arguments. But even so, enough is known to prove that not only have Chinese interests been safeguarded, but special pains have been taken to make the construction of the line as educative as possible by providing for the employment where feasible of Chinese personnel and Chinese materials and by vesting the direction of the construction in the hands of the Chinese Viceroy. As for the financial part of the undertaking, it cannot be maintained that the Corporation has been treated with undue generosity, for it must not be lost sight of that China has been allowed to go back upon most of what she had given under Imperial sanction in the preliminary agreement of 1890.

It is to be hoped that the final clause in H.E. Tang Shao-yi's telegram will obtain speedy fulfilment and that the agitation against the Canton-Kowloon Railway will leave without delay their attempt to secure the cancellation of the agreement, has failed. Public interest in the matter has little to do with the success or failure of an individual corporation in securing a bargain with China; but it is vitally concerned that the good faith of the Chinese Government in the matter of an agreement formally ratified by its accredited representatives, if (therefore) of its form has really set in China stands on the threshold of railway expansion on a large scale. All her men of affairs know that the necessary funds for these enterprises cannot be found within the country itself. It is true that in the past China has seen railway concessions wrung from her for strategic or political purposes, in which she has been forced to renounce all control and profit. But to-day, having had such a warning, she should be trusted to have acquired sufficient wisdom to refuse to entertain such a policy, and to insist on commercial undertakings which must benefit the country. China has had to admit her inability to build railways with her own capital. She must take care, then, that when the need for railways is brought home to the nation at large, she does not find every money market closed to her except on ruinous terms, as she will assuredly find them, if she allows irresponsible and childish obstruction to bring about the cancellation of agreements.

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STOCK EXCHANGE REGULATIONS.

BROKERS' PROTEST.

A panic is reported to have been caused among brokers on the Exchange by an order of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, recently issued, by which brokers will be compelled, after the 31st instant, to record every bargain transacted on Change, and procure a certificate therefor to be submitted to clients, says the *Japan Chronicle* of 22nd inst. This procedure will involve considerable trouble for brokers. Members of the Osaka Rice and Stock Exchange have held a meeting to consider what measures can be taken to reverse the decision of the Government, but no definite decision has been arrived at and they appear to be convinced that their agitation is useless.

A general meeting of brokers on the Stock Exchange on Thursday evening adopted a resolution to raise their commission, by 10 per cent, and also to apply to the Exchange for a reduction of the Exchange fee. All the brokers in Japan are opposed to the new order of things, but nevertheless are unable to advance any valid reason for their opposition.

THE NEW SHIPPING COMBINE.

PROGRESS OF THE SCHEME.

The *Japan Chronicle*, of 28th ult., says:—On Tuesday evening Baron Shibusawa convened a meeting at the Tokio Bankers' Club, which was attended by Messrs. Okura, Asano, and other leading businessmen of Tokio and Yokohama, who are interested in the projected steamship combine, and also by about thirty other gentlemen representing steamship-owners. Baron Shibusawa reported on the progress of the scheme, and remarked that the proposed incorporation of steamship-owners was an enterprise particularly adapted to the present development of the national resources. It would also be to the great advantage of the State, and if properly managed would prove most profitable to themselves. The Baron then read a draft agreement which it was proposed should be signed by the steamship owners.

Mr. Okasaki, a steamship-owner, of Kobe, on behalf of the new company promoting committee, spoke on the determination of the steamship owners in regard to the new scheme, and gave an estimate of the revenue and expenditure of the company.

Messrs. Okura, Asano, and about thirty other leading businessmen subsequently agreed to become promoters of the new combine, this concluding the business of the evening.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARIES APPOINTMENT.

OPINION IN THE STRAITS.

The *Straits Times* writes as follows:—Our Hongkong correspondent telegraphs that Mr. Thomas Sercombe Smith, Police Magistrate at Hongkong, has been offered the position of Puisne Judge in the Straits Settlements, and our correspondent adds the interesting fact that Mr. Sercombe Smith is undecided whether he will accept the position. Should he do so, he will be welcomed to the Straits, where he is very well known. The reason why he hesitates may probably be found in recent changes in the legal department of the northern Colony. A few months ago, Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., resigned the position of Attorney General, in order to take up private practice at the Hongkong Bar. That position still remains unfilled, though, strangely enough, a former Straits official, Mr. H. J. Gompertz, is acting as Attorney General. It may be that Mr. Sercombe Smith, who has acted as Puisne Judge on several occasions in Hongkong, and thrice, for long periods, as Colonial Secretary, is undecided whether to adopt irrevocably a judicial career or to continue in the running of a Colonial Secretaryship in Hongkong or in a more important Colony, for it must not be forgotten that there will be a shuffling of Colonial appointments in consequence of the death of Sir Alexander Ashmore in Ceylon. We happen to know, however, that Mr. Sercombe Smith's inclinations are towards a judicial career, and it is not unreasonable for him to expect looking to his record, that he should accept the first refusal of the Attorney-Generalship in the Colony with which he has been identified since 1882. The salary of the Attorney General at Hongkong is £1,500 per annum; of the Puisne Judge £8,000; and the Chief Justice £2,000. The Attorney General invariably acts as Chief Justice in the absence of that functionary. All that a Puisne Judge in the Straits may hope to obtain, for many years, is at least, £1,200; and as his present salary as Police Magistrate is between \$6,000 to \$7,200, augmented by per diem as Puisne Judge and Colonial Secretary, we are not astonished that Mr. Smith should hesitate. He has the reputation of being a sound lawyer and a good judge, and is a straightforward official, absolutely devoid of bunkum, and a hard worker, one who has worked his way upwards by sheer merit. Should he come to the Straits, the gain will be ours. Apart from his official career, Mr. Sercombe Smith has long been prominent as a cricketer and lawn tennis player. He was a player in the Interport matches in Singapore, Hongkong and Shanghai, and on some occasions has captained the Hongkong teams. He was good alike with bat and ball. His many friends, as we have already said, would welcome him to the Straits; but it is by no means improbable that he may remain in Hongkong in the hope of obtaining the Attorney-Generalship, or the Colonial Secretaryship should Mr. H. J. Gompertz retire. In Mr. May and Mr. Sercombe Smith, Hongkong has two of the best officials it has had in its whole history.

CHUNG SHUN KOO'S BANKRUPTCY.

JUDGMENT ON THAT CONTRACT.

In Bankruptcy Jurisdiction, in the Supreme Court this morning, His Honour delivered judgment in the matter of Chung Shun Koo's bankruptcy and in the matter of the disputed oil contract.

His Honour said:—The question I have to decide is whether the difference on the Tak Tai oil shop in respect of the difference on two contracts for the purchase of oil entered into with that shop and Chung Shun Koo is to be allowed to stand. In the first place I am satisfied that the two contracts were entered into as alleged, and were not, as was suggested, bogus contracts. There only question therefore left is whether they were gambling contracts, and so invalid? I am quite clear that so far as Chung Shun Koo was concerned they were speculative and that he intended to realise a profit by resale under the clause in the contracts, and not to take delivery. But that is not sufficient. In order that the proof should be disallowed, it must be shown that the contracts were contracts for differences only, that is, that both parties entered into them with that object in view, and with no intention either to take or to insist on delivery of the oil. A very exhaustive and closely reasoned cross-examination of Chen Hun Ping, the managing partner of Tak Tai Shop, with whom the contracts were entered into, failed to elicit anything which would lead me to the conclusion that so far as the first contract is concerned it was any other than a bona fide contract for delivery of oil on the part of the firm, an exceptionally large one it is true, but the manager's statement as to how he proposed to supply the 11,000 gallons can, I think, be accepted. He could not have supplied the whole at any one time, even with the fourteen days' notice which the contract required, but though I cannot find any decision on the question I am fairly clear that where a contract is to take a large quantity of goods by instalments during a long period of time, there is no breach if the whole cannot be supplied at any one time within that period. With regard to the second contract for 10,000 gallons, I am not quite so clear; and I think different principles govern it. To adopt the simple illustration referred to during the argument: if a debtor has ordered a suit of clothes from a tailor and bankruptcy supervenes to prevent the contract being carried out, the tailor can prove for the loss of profit. But if the debtor has ordered a thousand suits which he clearly has no use for, and if he intends merely to speculate on the rise in price of cloth, then the question whether the tailor has himself entered into the contract speculatively, may I think be determined by ascertaining what steps he has taken to fulfil the contract should he be called on to do so. I have doubts whether the Tailor did make sufficient preparation to fulfil the contract; but the curious part of the case is that the bargain money \$1,200 was paid on the 2nd and not on the 10th of the contract, which certainly gives an air of bona fides, and it turns the scale in favour of admitting the proof. The action of the trustee in testing these contracts in the way he has done was fully justified.

THE CUSTOMS SERVICE AND ITS ALLOWANCES.

The foreign staff of the Shanghai branch of the Imperial Maritime Customs recently drew up a memorial to Sir Robert Hart pointing out that owing to considerable advances in rents and taxes during recent years their allowances, which have not been sufficient to meet their needs in their domestic budget. The allowance for bachelors has hitherto been HK. \$15. 30 per mensem, and for married men HK. \$15. 50. The memorial requested the consideration of an advance to HK. \$15. 50 and HK. \$15. 80, for bachelors and married men respectively. The reply to this memorial has been received, and it is to the effect that in future the Customs Authorities will cease to pay an allowance to its employees direct, but will pay their rent for them, direct to their landlords, maximum payments for bachelors and married men being: HK. \$15. 50 and HK. \$15. 80 respectively. —*Shanghai Mercury.*

THE MURDER AT KOWLOON.

FAR-FETCHED SUGGESTION BY A SINGAPORE READER.

The following letter, which appears in the *Straits Times* of the 28th ult., will be of interest to local readers. In reproducing it we disclaim all endorsement of what must certainly be considered a far-fetched theory. The exact words made use of by the murderer on that fatal occasion will probably never be known, but the local reports coincide with regard to the particulars:—

Sir—With reference to the murder of Mr. Craik at Hongkong, the words used by the murderer, according to your paper in an extract from the *South China Morning Post*, were "If you made a noise I will kill you too." If those were the very words he used, it will exclude the idea of his being a Britisher or American, for the use of the word *make* for *make* is not the kind of mistake an Englishman, Scotsman, Irishman or American would be guilty of making. The chances of his being a white man, of any other nationality are very remote, if, as it is alleged, the murderer must have known the dock premises thoroughly, for it is not likely that foreigners, other than Britishers, are employed on the dock premises. The murderer is also not likely to be an uneducated Chinaman, with even a knowledge of pidgin English, for his language is not what we would expect of a man using pidgin English. The pickin version of the three words would be "You make noise, I kill you." I think you will translate literally what such a culprit would have said in Chinese, we would have "You make noise, I kill you." The particle "a" and the auxiliary "will" would be omitted from the sentence in Chinese or pidgin English. Even the word "if" would be understood, and therefore left out in pidgin.

The murderer was probably at one time a lad educated in an English school, or had attended a night class in Hongkong and had left without getting into the higher standards, where his English for a short easy sentence like that used by the murderer would have been perfect. If, however, the murderer, assuming that he was a Chinaman, had not been educated at an English school, his pronunciation would have been so bad or so marked that notwithstanding the excitement at the time, Mr. Craik could not have mistaken him for anybody else than a Chinaman. If the murderer had learnt his English from a book giving English words in Chinese characters he would have pronounced the word, *noise*, as *nois*, the two syllables, for you cannot get any one character in Chinese to represent the sound of the English monosyllable *noise*, and two characters would be used to represent it, as near as possible, the two syllables "no" and "is", the result being the combination "nois" for *noise*.

"If you made a noise I will kill you too," though ungrammatical, is too good English for the great majority of Chinese coolies or servants. If the murderer was an old servant, he should be readily identified, as the word *noise* is not a word which a Chinaman would use in pidgin English. The same would apply if he had been a dock hand.

I remember, a few years ago, being surprised when an Inspector of Police here who spoke Chinese told me that we had got the right Chinaman concerned in the murder of a Korean in Muar a year previously, because, in addition to other suspicious circumstances, he could tell the man was trying to scribble hastily by speaking a dialect other than his own. It was afterwards proved that the murderer had called a draft belonging to the murdered Korean, at one of the local banks here, for which he got three years, though the charge of murder was not brought against him for want of sufficient evidence.

Great importance should be attached to the words used by the murderer in hunting him down, and if Mrs. Craik could give any further particulars about the voice and pronunciation there ought to be men in Hongkong who could narrow down the class to whom the murderer belongs to a small number in comparison with the big Chinese population of this Colony.

In conclusion, I may suggest that it is possible the murder was committed by profit, the instance of a dock employee, whose profits had been curtailed by the appointment of Mr. Craik.—*Y. Y.*

[Our correspondent's theory is interesting. We may say, without any imputation, however, that Europeans of other than British nationality are employed at the Docks.—Ed. "S.T."]

COMMERCIAL.

TO-DAY'S INTELLIGENCE.

Buyers.—National Banks \$40, Hongkong Bank \$35, China Bank \$30, H.K. & C. \$25, Steamboats \$15, China and Manila \$15, Hongkong Docks \$15, Kowloon Wharves \$5, Hongkong Lands \$10, Humphreys Estate \$10, Cements \$10, Electric \$10, Ice \$10. Sellers.—Canton Insurance \$30, Douglas \$30, Shell Transport \$30, Shanghai Docks \$10, West Point \$10, Hongkong Cottons \$10, China Borneo \$10, China Providents \$10, Kopek \$10, Powell \$10. Sales.—Hongkong Bank \$35, China Bank \$30, H.K. & C. \$25, Steamboats \$15, China and Manila \$15, Hongkong Docks \$15, Kowloon Wharves \$5, Hongkong Lands \$10, Humphreys Estate \$10, Cements \$10, Electric \$10, Ice \$10. Light and Powers \$10, A. S. Watsons \$10.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadourie & Co. write under 4th inst.—There has been very little business owing to the New Year holidays, and quotations generally have not undergone any material change.

A comparative statement of values of the principal local stocks on December 31st, for the past ten years, is appended on the fourth page of this circular, which we think will be of interest to our readers.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have been negotiated at \$820 and \$825, closing with sellers at the latter rate. The London market has improved to 24.10. Nationals are quoted \$49.

Marine Insurances.—Unions are weak at \$760. Cantons are off at \$27. Fire Insurances.—China Firms continue in request at \$93. Hongkong Firms are obtainable at \$35.

Shippers.—China and Manila can be placed at \$21. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats, after sales at \$27, have improved to \$28. Indo-China has declined, in sympathy with the Northern market, and there are sellers at \$35. Dou

year for the Eastern coasting trade. "Excess of tonnage over requirements has been the keynote of it. May the new year help to a more satisfactory state of affairs."

Continuing the review of fixtures of the fortnight, we have had a charter from Saigon to Singapore at 15 cents, Saigon to Balikpapan, nothing done, probably on account of the impending higher import duty, though some say that same may not be enforced from 1st January, as has been reported.

From Java here, dry and wet sugar and presumably milled, a charter has been arranged at 25 cents.

Natuna Island to this, a suitable steamer, 940 tons reg. net, is reported fixed at \$10,000 in full.

Japan coal freights continue at about \$125 Mj to this, a charter is reported.

From Hongkong, no special requirements. The mines are expected to close up in another 2 or 3 weeks for the Chinese New Year holidays.

Sail tonnage loading or to load:—For Baltimore and New York:—Amer. ship *A. B. Sullivan*, 1639 tons, arrived from Baltimore, 21st December. Sail-tonnage Disengaged:—British steel 4-m. barque *Arrow*, 2971 tons reg. Departure of Salsar:—Am. ship *C. C. Chapman*, for Baltimore, 18th December. Am. ship *Ivy*, for Esquimaux, B.C., 19th December.

RAUB CRUSHING.

4th inst.

Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. inform us that they are in receipt of telegraphic advices from Singapore, informing them that the crushing of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Co. for the past four weeks yielded 602 ozs. smelted gold from 3,757 tons of ore.

(Another firm of brokers kindly write us conveying similar information, and add that the mills ran for nineteen days only, nine days of the four-weekly period were partially lost through the flooding of the mines.—Ed., H.K.T.)

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.	
London—Bank T.T.	2/3 1/2
Do. demand	2/3 1/2
Do. 4 months' sight	2/3 1/2
France—Bank T.T.	2/3 1/2
America—Bank T.T.	51
Garners—Bank T.T.	233 1/2
India T.T.	163 1/2
Do. demand	163 1/2
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	2/3 1/2
Singapore—Bank T.T.	2/3 1/2
Japan—Bank T.T.	117 1/2
Do. demand	117 1/2
4 months' sight L/C.	2/4
6 months' sight L/C.	2/4
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York.	2/4
4 months' sight do.	2/4
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne.	2/4
4 months' sight France	2/3 1/2
6 months' sight	2/3 1/2
4 months' sight Germany	2/3 1/2
Bar Silver	3/2 1/2
Bank of England rate.	8 1/2
Sovereign	8 1/2

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

MR. R. E. S. Gregory, barrister-at-law, was admitted to practise at H.B.M.'s Supreme Court, Shanghai, on 20th inst.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co.'s total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending December 15 amounted to 23,622.86 tons and the sales during the period to 20,173.24 tons.

A second number of *The Golden* has appeared. If it lives as long as the first, it will be said of Shanghai in the immortal words of the old (or was it a young) bard: *Materia non ulla, videri, descendit eorum*.—N. C. D. News.

WE understand that a number of American lawyers are on their way here from Manila to fill the gaps produced in the ranks of the local American Bar by the examination which Judge Willey conducted last Monday.—*Shanghai Times*.

ON Tuesday the members of the Hongkong Corinthian Yacht Club held their New Year's cruise, which proved a complete success, the weather being delightful while the breeze was just sufficiently strong to make the outing enjoyable.

THE Waiwpu has decided to negotiate a commercial treaty with Siam and has ordered the Chinese Minister to London, Wang Teh-hsi, to ask the Siam Minister to London to inquire into the views of the Siam Government in the matter.

"HAVE you any witnesses to call?" asked Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, of a coolie who was charged with creating a disturbance in the public street. "I am here to be a witness for myself," replied the coolie. "That's what I came up here for."

P. C. 101 SUMMONED the coxswain of the steam launch *Jack Lee* before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Friday, for failing to observe the rule of the road, while steaming in the waters of this Colony on the 24th inst. Accused admitted the charge and paid \$10.

MR. W. H. Donald, of Hongkong, has been appointed a Commissioner of the N. S. W. Supreme Court to take oaths and Affidavits, and the Acknowledgments of Married Women, the Commission being given under the hand of Sir Frederick Darley, P.C., chief justice of the State.

The entries for the Football Challenge Shield are as follows:—H.M.S. *King Alfred*, H.M.S. *Diadem*, Hongkong Football Club, Hongkong Rugby Club, A.C. Co., F.C. Co., F.C. Co., 3rd Middlesex Regt. Royal Engineers, Royal Artillery, Y.M.C.A., Lusitano F.C. and R.A. M.C.

"HAVE you ever been convicted before?" Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne asked a defendant at the Police Court, this morning. "What?" returned the Chinaman, with some feeling of surprise. "Not as yet. I have only been here two days!" His first conviction was registered there and there.

MESSRS. H. Price & Co. wire merchants, have just received samples of new bottle stoppers which are of original design, and excellently formed. They are also showing corks which should be used after the ordinary cork has been removed. Both designs have only to be seen to be appreciated.

REV. O. H. Hickling has just issued, in pamphlet form, the text of a series of sermons which he devoted in the autumn of last year to a criticism of what is known as Christian Science. There are ten chapters, and the author frankly acknowledges his indebtedness to others who have traversed the same path.

TWO Kowloon earth collies were before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Monday, at the Police Court, on a charge of making an unnecessary noise in McDonnell Road, years ago, with their wheelbarrows. The squeaking noise was heard at 11.15 p.m. Police Station and Inspector Langley sent out a *huber* and arrested the defendants. They were fined 25 each.

A NUMBER of Japanese merchants, inland Sea pilots and Chinese merchants in Kobe, have a scheme under consideration to "organize" a Lighterage Company with a capital of ¥300,000. The arrangements for floatation are stated to be now well advanced, and it is expected that shares in the company will be placed on the market in a few days. The style of the company will be the Kobe Koin Kaisha.

We have received a large photograph showing the new premises which have been erected for the Hongkong Milling Company. The buildings cover a considerable area and are fitted to suit the needs of a large output of flour. At the rear are several houses, apparently the residential quarters of the employees. The white buildings of the mill are silhouetted against the dark background formed by a high mountain. The photograph gives an excellent conception of the scene.

WHILE a number of bricklayers were engaged in strengthening the wall of a house, 15 Stanley Street—which is immediately behind Queen's Road Central—the wall was suddenly seen to bulge and collapse. The debris fell upon the workmen, covering them up to the knees. They extricated themselves without difficulty and with the exception of some bruises they do not seem to have suffered much from the experience. If the wall was being strengthened by order of the Sanitary Board, then the officials of that body are to be commended for having recognised the instability of the structure.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Tea Shop Guild (already acknowledged)	\$48.50
Fresh Fish Guild	30
Tobacco Dealers' Guild	30
Fairall & Co.	25
Robinson Piano Co.	10
Moutrie & Co.	10
H. T. Richardson	5
W. Barker	5

MR. William Russell, Government Marine Surveyor, residing in Observatory Villas, Kowloon, was the complainant in a larceny case which was heard before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Thursday. He charged a marine hawker named Leung Kui with stealing a large iron plate, the value of which he gave at \$10, on the 2nd inst. The iron plate was missed yesterday morning, so it was said. Later in the day defendant was attempting to sell the plate to another hawker when he was seen and arrested. A sentence of six weeks' hard labour and four hours' stocks was passed.

SADICK Fukeira, who styles himself a ticket collector—when there are any theatrical companies in the Colony—made his second appearance, the first this year, at the Police Court on Thursday, with behaving in a disorderly manner whilst drunk on the verandah of the City Hall last evening. If the witness denied that he did any such thing. He said he had several other friends were enjoying themselves with the carter—Alley, Mr. S. Carruthers, of the Royal Engineers Department, declared that when he was called he saw defendant, minus his coat, running up and down the corridor of the building, screaming. He was fined \$7.

PAT Delaney, leading seaman, on board H. M. torpedo-boat *Otter*, was charged before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Friday, at the Police Court, with behaving in a disorderly manner whilst drunk at No. 43, Queen's Road Central. Pat, it was stated in evidence, went to this tobacco shop shortly after six o'clock last evening. The salesman was engaged in making some entries in his day book. Pat stood by for a time, and without saying a word grabbed the day book and tore from it a couple of leaves. He was then given in charge. The defendant pleaded guilty to the accusation and was fined \$7.

MR. M. H. Logan, residing at No. 4, Austin Avenue, Kowloon, prosecuted the driver of ricksha No. 31 K before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, on Friday, with failing to observe the rule of the road, at Kowloon, on the 25th ultimo. Inspector Langley, of Tsim-sui Police Station, said complainant was driving in his horse buggy on the day in question, when accused, disregarding the rule of the road, crossed in front of the horse, and a collision resulted. The complainant, he understood, did not want to press the charge, a nominal fine would meet the case. On accused pleading guilty he was fined \$2.

A BRICKLAYER was removed to the Tung Wah Hospital shortly after noon on Tuesday suffering from a lacerated right foot which was caused by one of the Peak tramcar passing over it. It is said that the foot will have to be amputated. The man, we are informed, was at the time engaged in repairing the line. His back was turned towards the Peak, and he had one foot on the track, while he went on with his work. The brakeman of a descending car, thinking the bricklayer was clear of the car, continued on his course, and the wheel of the tram crossed over the Chinaman's foot, before he knew a car was behind him. He was removed to hospital from the Tramway Company's premises.

CHENG Tok residing at No. 24, Square Street, was charged before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, on Thursday, at the Police Court, with stealing from a jeweller's shop at No. 178, Queen's Road Central, yesterday, a gold earring, valued at \$15.50. Mr. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty to the accusation. Inspector Smith, who had charge of the case, said that defendant went to the jeweller's establishment and asked to be shown some jewellery. He examined the articles one by one, and in the presence of four *fohis* attempted to get away with the earring. He was arrested on the spot. At the request of defendant's solicitor a remand was granted. Bail \$10.

MICHAEL Burke, a private in the Royal Garrison Artillery, came before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Thursday, to answer three charges. On the first it was alleged he damaged property to the extent of one dollar at No. 31, Ship Street, last evening, on the second he assaulted P. C. Hedger, and on the third he damaged the policeman's uniform. Burke stated that he accidentally smashed a jar; a policeman was called; but he did not assault him. The complainant stated that Burke picked up the jar and flung it at her. The policeman averred that when he was called Burke sat upon him and assaulted him, destroyed the peak of his cap which he threw in the street. His Worship fined the defendant \$5, in all, which included compensation both to the policeman and to the owner of the jar.

YUEN Man Yun, styling himself a trader, of No. 97, Connaught Road Central, was charged before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, on Saturday, with stealing from a lock fast box the value of \$100, the property of his employer, Wong Yee Kai. The money was alleged to have been extracted from the box at half-past twelve o'clock this morning. The case was adjourned.

W. F. FARNOWORTH, a coal passer, on board U.S.S. *West Virginia*, was arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Monday, on a charge of stealing four bottles of whiskey, valued at \$4.05, from a comrade's ship, No. 107, Queen's Road East, last evening. The accused denied the allegation, and it was intimated that he had witnesses to call, the case was adjourned.

IN a few days a case which will perhaps be interesting will come up for hearing. It is that in which H. "mall, a master trigger of the Naval Dockyard, is summoning Querio Gomez, a clerk in the Naval Yard, I. Gomez, another clerk also employed in a naval office, and one Runjalin, unemployed, for assault, alleged to have taken place some days ago. Gomez has issued a cross-summons against Small for assault and for damaging property to the extent of \$12. Mrs. J. Gomez is also to have a say in the matter, for she alleges that Small assaulted her and has handed him a summons too. Small, we are informed, resides on the second floor of No. 10, Saw Wah Fong, the other residing on the floor below him. What the trouble is over was not said, nor did Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne take the trouble to inquire. As the case will take some time he adjourned it for a few days.

WHILE looking 460 was on duty in police launch No. 2 at Cheung-sha-wei yesterday he noticed that a man on board a fishing junk had suddenly thrown something into the bay. Expecting something to happen, the looking kept his eye on the people on board the junk and on the water. After about six seconds he heard a stifled explosion and saw the water near the junk something like a small fire. The several feet. "Full speed ahead" rang on the telegraph and the police launch was soon alongside the fishing junk. "Fishing with dynamite!" said the looking when he got on board the junk. "Come along with me." He arrested the master of the junk, placed him on board the launch, and taking the junk in tow, brought the whole outfit back to Hongkong. Police Sergeant Jackson charged the owner of the fishing craft before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, with the offence, but applied for a postponement, as, according to him, further inquiries were necessary before the case could proceed. The case was adjourned.

A CIGARETTE hawk and a cross-eyed Chinese woman figured in the dock before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, this morning, at the Police Court, on a charge of fighting in the public street, at Wanchai yesterday. The hawk, it appears, went to a street tap yesterday morning to get a bucket of water. As he was doing so the second defendant, who was the filling of her jar. Without any apology the hawk brushed the woman aside, upsetting and smashing a jar, and started to fill his bucket. The insulted woman stepped aside and picking up her bamboo pole brought it down with some violence on the hawk's head. Then, according to the hawk himself, she dusted the street with him. "After she had got her satisfaction out of him, she turned her attention to his stall. When she was finished with it she was, it is alleged, with cigarettes. The hawk went to the stall and took another crack on the cranium with the pole soon showed him that business was meant. A policeman came on the scene and took the pair in charge. They had to pay \$1 each.

A PRIVATE belonging to the Royal Garrison Artillery was arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Wednesday, on three charges: drunk and disorderly, assaulting an Indian policeman, and damaging his tunic to the extent of fifty cents. "I plead guilty to being drunk, your Worship," said defendant. "As regards the other charges I do not remember a thing." The defendant, it seems, was the driver of a ricksha, who, one evening at Wanchai, the peace-loving Indian, who did not want to see a "Government soldier" imposed upon, went up to settle the matter and see that law was made. The soldier did not want "the Government policeman" to be interfering in matters that did not concern him and told him to move on. This the policeman refused to do, and it was alleged, the soldier gave him a twist of *la jujitsu*, which felled the policeman. It was also alleged he bit the policeman on the neck and the third charge of the defendant was that he was taken into consideration defendant's good character in the army and fine him \$5.

THREE painters and three cooks, employed at Mount Austin Barracks, the Peak, got into a fight on Friday evening and each man has something to remember for several weeks to come. Curiously enough the six warriors had their noses covered with plaster when they visited the Police Court on Saturday, where the painters were charged with assault. This was how the fight started. Two of the paint daubers were throwing things at each other in play. A piece of wood accidentally slipped out of one of the painter's fist and struck one of the cooks, who promptly went to Mount Gough Police Station and lodged a complaint. When he returned to barracks the painters demanded an explanation of his conduct, and the fight opened. The two other cooks, seeing their friends' predicament pitched into the fray, with poles, and belaboured the painters. Each side secured sticks and went at it hammer and tongs, and when the police arrived the six men were only fit for hospital. They refused to go, however, and Inspector McCarthy acted the part of surgeon and patched them up. The three painters were arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne and were fined \$5 each. The other were ordered to give each of the complainants fifty cents' compensation.

No more successful dance has been held under the auspices of the Scottish Masonic Quadrille Association than the one held in the City Hall on Thursday. There was a very large attendance and the weather was just right for dancing, while the arrangements had been admirably made for the requirements of the dancers. On this occasion the d'Alberts were introduced and considering it was an innovation it proved a success. The programme was a feature of the future programme. The committee had thoughtfully arranged that the instructions to the figures of the dance should be printed on the back of the programmes and it was evident that these had been connoised and studied to some purpose. Many naval men were present, including German and Austrian officers from the warships in the harbour. The naval visitors were greatly impressed by the English square dances and watched the evolutions from a distance, wondering if those many forms and figures had anything to do with the secret of Britain's power. The dance broke up just before 2 a.m. in order that the Kowloon contingent might catch the special launch which had been engaged. It is probable that there will be a "regatta" dance in March and a "calico" ball in April.

Average Amount in Reserve.	
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$3,378,067
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	12,651,879
National Bank of China, Limited	119,702
Total	\$11,649,648

POLICE Sergeant Lee and a number of plain clothes men on No. 2 Police Station raided last evening a house at No. 11, Albany Street, where it was stated, gambling was being carried on. When the police entered the house—the door of which was wide open—they found in a room big enough to hold a large crowd, a number of coolies deeply interested in a game of *fantam*. Some of the gamblers got very much excited when they saw the officers and made a dash for liberty. Many succeeded in getting away and the manner they went about it was dangerous to the pursuers. The police captured nineteen men, whom they arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, on the usual gambling charges. The two leaders were fined \$25 each, and the remainder, but one—*lad*—who was discharged on account of his age, were asked to pay \$5 apiece.

HIS Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased to appoint provisionally or null further: notice: Major A. Chapman, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, to act as Commandant, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, vice Major C. G. Prichard, R.A.M., on leave, with effect from the 21st inst.

LADY Blake's attention was called recently to the terribly cruel manner in which, in the past, turkeys have been killed at Christmas time by tearing out the tongues. Lady Blake appeals earnestly to all purchasers of turkeys to assist, by refusing to purchase turkeys so killed, in putting a stop to a custom so heartlessly cruel and demoralising.

ON the complaint of one Elbridge J. Manros, of No. 247, Station Street, Mongkok, Li Sang, an undertaker's coolie, was arrested on Sunday by the Yau-mai Police on a charge of obtaining one dollar from the complainant under false pretences. The case was called on before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Police Court, on Monday, and as the complainant did not appear the defendant was discharged.

DAIICHI Matsumoto, a Japanese merchant, residing at No. 28, Connaught Road Central, pleaded guilty at the Police, on Monday, to a charge of assaulting a ricksha coolie in the Central district, yesterday. It was said that the coolie was not running fast enough. After repeated demands to increase his pace, the Jap got out of the vehicle and delivered a couple of punches to the coolie. He was fined \$10.

MR. F. A. Hazeland, first police magistrate, could not preside at the Police Court this morning owing to illness. Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, the second magistrate, sat in the large Court and disposed of the few petty cases that were brought before him. In consequence of Mr. Hazeland's illness several cases, which came directly under his notice, had to be postponed, including the decision in the Golding Indian soldiers assault case, which was billed for to-day.

W. H. MITCHELL, a freeman on board U.S.S. *Maryland*, made himself heard in a house at East Point on Friday and was given in charge. The man, so it was asserted, wanted one of the inmates of the house to believe that Hongkong was as much British as he was. In his opinion this little island of ours was part and parcel of God's Own Country! Mitchell, it was alleged, got disorderly because he was not believed. He was arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, on Saturday, at the Police Court, but could not remember his previous night's behaviour. He was nevertheless fined \$5.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Rice Guild	\$100
Deacon, Looker and Deacon	50
Tea Shop Guild	48.50
Paperware Dealers' Guild	30
Verderlind in der Handelsbank	25
Spery Flour Co.	25
D. Donabes	15
Dorabes and Ron	10
Percy Smith and Seth	10
G. de Champeaux	10
G. A. Hastings	5

CHU E, a shopkeeper, carrying on business at No. 203, Des Vaux Road Central, had the very unhappy experience on Friday of being arrested on a charge of being in possession of a dangerous weapon and ammunition. The shopkeeper, so we are given to understand, was exhibiting the revolver to his friends and speaking of its good qualities, when P.C. McClenahan happened along, and seeing the display promptly annexed both the man and the revolver. After a short detention the ammunition on the premises, which formed the shooting iron, gathered the lot into the Central Police Station. On being placed before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, on Saturday, the shopkeeper admitted the accusation, and was fined \$25. The revolver and ammunition went to the Crown.

A GAMBLING raid, executed by Inspector Gourlay, of No. 2 Police Station, at one o'clock on Friday afternoon, on house No. 5, Kat On Street, resulted, after the usual stampede, in the arrest of twenty men, who were engaged in playing a game of *nyan-pai*. Several gamblers succeeded in escaping arrest by taking to the roof of the house and crossing to the adjoining buildings. Those arrested were arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, on Saturday, two were charged with running a gambling house, and the remainder with gambling on the premises. The charges were proved, and the two leaders were mulcted in the sum of \$50 each, with the option of two months in obscurity, whilst the remainder paid \$5 apiece.

TANG E, who said she was a widow, sixty years of age, was arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, to-day, on a charge of removing a certain landmark, to wit, a stone defining a certain lot of land, at Pak Shu Lung, New Territory, on the 25th ultimo. "I did not remove the stone," pleaded the old lady. "I simply would not allow them to put up the mark as the land on which they desired to place the stone belongs to our ancestors." A coolie was called and he stated that he was ordered by the P. W. D. to place the landmark on this ground. He did so, but accused tore it up. His Worship informed the old dame that she was old enough to know better, and bound her over in the sum of \$100 to be of good behaviour for six months.

FOLLOWING are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation, and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st December, 1906, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks:—

Average Amount in Reserve.	
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$3,378,067
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	12,651,879
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Police Sergeant Lee and a number of plain clothes men on No. 2 Police Station raided last evening a house at No. 11, Albany Street, where it was stated, gambling was being carried on. When the police entered the house—the door of which was wide open—they found in a room big enough to hold a large crowd, a number of coolies deeply interested in a game of *fantam*. Some of the gamblers got very much excited when they saw the officers and made a dash for liberty. Many succeeded in getting away and the manner they went about it was dangerous to the pursuers. The police captured nineteen men, whom they arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, on the usual gambling charges. The two leaders were fined \$25 each, and the remainder, but one—*lad*—who was discharged on account of his age, were asked to pay \$5 apiece.

Shipping.

Vessels in Port.

AKI Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,995, M. Yagi, 31st Dec.,—Shanghai 27th Dec., Flour and Benares plums.—N. Y. K.

America Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,460, Philip Goings, 1st Jan.,—San Francisco 30th Nov., and Manila 30th Dec., Mails and Gen.—N. Y. K.

Beatty, Br. s.s., 2,305, J. D. Sarched, 4th Jan.,—Singapore 26th Dec., Gen.—G. L. & Co.

Bihi Thuan, Fr. s.s., 2,000, Langlois, 1st Jan.,—Saigon 23rd Dec., Rice, Flour and Wood.—B. & Co.

Changsha, Br. s.s., 2,300, T. Moore, 4th Jan.,—Kobe via Kutchinotai 31st Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Chip Shing, Br. s.s., 1,199, G. S. Weigall, 31st Dec.,—Canton 20th Dec., Gen.—J. & M. & Co.

Daiya Maru, Jap. s.s., 1,734, Aikawa, 5th Jan.,—Moji 31st Dec., Coal.—M. B. K.

Dakota, Am. s.s., 13,305, E. Francke, 31st Dec.,—Shanghai 29th Dec., Gen.—N. Y. K.

Drufar, Nor. s.s., 1,102, J. Bing, 3rd Jan.,—Bangkok via Swatow 22nd Dec., Rice and Teak-timber.—N. Y. K.

Empress of China, Br. s.s., 3,036, R. Archibald, R.N.R., 16th Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., 27th Nov., and Shanghai 13th Dec., Mails and Gen.—P. & R. Co.

Haitan, Br. s.s., 1,183, J. S. Roach, 3rd Jan.,—Fochow 31st Dec., Amoy 1st Jan., and Swatow 2nd, Gen.—D. L. & Co.

Halvard, Nor. s.s., 1,066, C. Andersen, 3rd Jan.,—Chinkiang 29th Dec., Gen.—Chinese.

Hanchow, Br. s.s., 999, Mawley, 5th Jan.,—Canton 4th Jan., Gen.—B. & S.

Hanoi, Fr. s.s., 739, P. Morlees, 5th Jan.,—Haiphong 1st Jan., and Hoihow 4th, Gen.—A. R. M.

Heleste, Ger. s.s., 771, J. Jensen, 3rd Jan.,—Hoihow 1st Jan., Coal and Gen.—J. & Co.

Hilary, Ger. s.s., 1,276, Uecker, 2nd Jan.,—Saigon 2nd Dec., Rice.—S. W. & Co.

Kabafatu Maru, Jap. s.s., 2,195, Kyushimatsu, 26th Dec.,—Moji 21st Dec., Gen.—Fukusei & Co.

Kutsang, Br. s.s., 3,110, R. C. D. Bradley, 3rd Jan.,—Calcutta via Penang and Singapore 26th Dec., Gen.—J. M. & Co.

Laertes, Br. s.s., 1,340, Jackson, 2nd Jan.,—Saigon 27th Dec., Rice and Gen.—Chinese.

Lodsen, Nor. s.s., 757, C. Thunbuhl, 5th Jan.,—Moji 30th Dec., Coal.—Order.

Loyal, Jap. s.s., 1,237, F. Natsuna, 1st Nov.,—Bangkok 9th Nov., Rice and Gen.—S. W. & Co.

Macaw, Br. s.s., 995, R. Zollner, 2nd Jan.,—Bangkok 24th Dec., Rice and Wood.—B. & S.

Madeline Rickmers, Ger. s.s., 1,020, S. Simonsen, 27th Dec.,—Bangkok 15th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Masan Maru, Jap. s.s., 702, I. Sakurai, 3rd Jan.,—Tamil 30th Dec., Gen.—O. S. K.

Matilde, Ger. s.s., 831, N. Johann, 31st Dec.,—Haiphong 27th Dec., and Hoihow 29th, Coal and Figs.—J. & Co.

Memnon, Br. s.s., 3,867, Evans, 5th Jan.,—Singapore 27th Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Monteagle, Br. s.s., 3,953, S. Robinson, 14th Sept.,—Vancouver 20th Aug., and Shanghai 11th Sept., Flour, Lard and Gen.—C. P. R. Co.

Ships Passed the Canal.

4th December—*Glenelg*, *Chambers*, *Memnon*, *Nile*, *Princess Alice*, 5th December—*Albatross*, *Albatross*, *Dardanelles*, *Albatross* (Ger.) *Java*, 11th December—*Benz*, *Albatross*, *Glamorgan*, *Korona*, 14th December—*Hudson*, *Oceanic*, *Shimoda*, *Rosa*, *Maru*, *Sanshi Maru*, 18th December—*Panama*, *Agamemnon*, *Ginturri*, *Kennedy*, *Saxonia*, 21st December—*Cayton*, *Dardanelles*, <